The Middlebury Campus

APRIL 27, 2017 | VOL. 115 NO. 22 | MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.COM

College Begins Discipline of Murray Protestors

By Will DiGravio and Alex Newhouse
News and Features Editors

As of April 17, the College has identified "more than 70 individuals it believes may be subject to disciplinary procedures under student handbook policies" due to their participation in the March 2 protests that prevented Dr. Charles Murray from delivering a scheduled lecture, according to an official statement released by the College.

Of those identified, "more than 30 students have accepted disciplinary sanctions for their actions." In that same statement, the College said, "We will not comment on the nature or range of the sanctions until the process is complete."

In an effort to shed light on the proceedings, *The Campus* spoke with several students who had been called into disciplinary meetings regarding their actions on March 2. On the condition of anonymity, they described the nature of their meetings and what they were told would be the next steps.

Individuals involved in the protests began receiving emails about potential discipline on Monday, April 3, the first week after spring break. The email, sent on behalf of either Karen Guttentag or Brian Lind, both associate deans for judicial affairs and student life, asked students to attend a meeting with either Guttentag or Lind in the College's Service Building.

Initial emails did not say that the meeting pertained to the events of March 2. When some students asked for more information, some were initially told that it could not be provided. Others pressed harder and were eventually given information about the subject and nature of the meeting. They were scheduled for an hour.

Meetings consisted of a basic structure but varied in length and topics discussed. Students engaged in a conversation with either Guttentag or Lind about the College's position and handbook policies. They were not read a script nor were notes taken, according to multiple students.

Before they were given a punishment, students were asked if they had any questions. Students were told that the College had either video or photographic evidence that they had participated in the protest by either standing, shouting, or holding signs. They either received unofficial or official college discipline. Some, after asking to see evidence, were shown either photos or videos of the protest.

Unofficial punishment, according to several students involved, has generally been given in the form of probation; official punishment is anything that goes on a student's permanent record.

Students who are placed on probation have a letter placed in their file that will be removed at the end of the semester. However, if a student is placed on probation and then violates another college policy, the probation can become a part of their official record.

According to multiple students, the College has given unofficial punishment to students who participated in the protest prior to the live stream of the conversation held between Murray and Russell J. Leng '60 Professor of International Politics and Economics Allison Stanger. Students were told that those who continued to protest during the live stream in Wilson Hall may receive official college discipline. As of April 25, it is unclear whether or not any students have received official college discipline. Those investigations, as well as investigations into the protest prior to the start of the live stream, are ongoing.

While multiple students said that they understood that the College may have had to punish protesters, many expressed frustration with the process, saying that it seemed arbitrary and ill-defined. Others condemned the punishments altogether, citing them as an example of the College stifling students' ability to express themselves.

The Campus will continue coverage as the story develops.

SPRING SYMPOSIUM 2017

MICHAEL O'HARA

On April 21, 285 students presented at the annual Spring Student Symposium. The day-long event featured four sessions of oral presentations and two sessions of poster presentations. See pages 10-11 for more.

Former Financial Policy Causes Significant Tuition Increases

By Nick Garber
News Editor

Editor's Note: This article is the second in a series that will examine the current financial state of the College. In recent years, the College has run budget deficits and has been forced to reign in spending in order to ensure long term financial stability. These articles will aim to inform the Middlebury community about the College's financial situation, dispel rumors, raise new questions and, hopefully, spark new debates about how the College operates and spends its money.

A flawed policy intended to limit Middlebury College's yearly tuition increases has been a major contributor to its current financial troubles, and will require significant tuition increases in coming years.

The policy, first announced by then-Middlebry President Ronald D. Liebowitz in 2010, capped the annual increase in the College's comprehensive fee at one percentage point above the Consumer Price Index, which is commonly used as an indicator of inflation.

At the time, Liebowitz described the policy, known informally as "CPI + 1," as a necessary step towards controlling the increasing costs of a liberal arts education. "We need to recognize that the demand for a four-year liberal arts degree, while still great, is not inelastic," he said in a February 2010 speech. "There will be a price point at which even the most affluent of families will question their investment; the sooner we are able to reduce our fee increases the better."

By 2014, however, the College was forced to revise its policy. Facing rising budget deficits, the College announced that CPI + 1 would apply to student tuition only, rather than the comprehensive fee, which includes room and board. Ultimately, in April 2015, the College fully ceased its implementation of the policy, though a news release noted that the formula "moved Middlebury College from the top to the near bottom on its peer list of most expensive liberal arts institutions."

David Provost, executive vice president for finance and administration, spoke with *The Campus* about the policy's repercussions and how they may be addressed. According to Provost, the College's biggest error was to voluntarily limit its own revenue stream without a plan to address rising expenses — namely in financial aid and other operating costs.

"It was a nice gesture to [implement the policy]," Provost said. "But what's absent for me is any plan on how we were going to control costs."

From 2012 to 2016, Provost said, the College generated new revenue at a rate of only 1.8 per-

SEE BUDGET, PAGE 3

PARKER-MERRILL SPEECH COMPETITION

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Second place winner of the 2017 Parker-Merrill Speech Competition Lynn Travnikova '20 delivers her six-minute long talk on the benefits of being a conscious consumer. See page 2 for more.

MEAL PLAN CHANGES TO BE IMPLEMENTED NEXT FALL

By Kyle Naughton
Senior Writer

Starting in fall 2017, Middlebury will use a swipe-based dining plan to replace the current open dining system. Students will be required to swipe their MiddCards to gain entrance into campus dining halls as opposed to freely entering.

The administration attributes these dining changes to the unsustainability of the open dining hall system. The large number of outside diners, typically composed of visiting sports teams, parents, or surrounding Middlebury community members, has placed a financial strain on Middlebury's dining budget in recent years. As such, the swiping system will be introduced to prevent outsiders from taking advantage of the College's dining halls without paying. Hundreds of thousands of dollars may be saved as the College will need to buy less food overall.

The administration also hopes that the swipe system will reduce the amount of food waste on Middlebury's campus. MiddCards will enable the college to collect data on student dining

SEE SWIPE SYSTEM, PAGE 3

INSIDE

VT HOUSE BILL TACKLES RACIAL BIAS

PAGE 5

SEX PANTHER EXPOSES HOOKUP CULTURE

PAGE 9

"FREEFALL" SHOWCASES SENIOR WORK

PAGE 14

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

By John Gosselin
Community Council Correspondent

At the April 11 meeting, Director of Financial Aid Operations Michael McLaughlin and Associate Vice President for Financial Services Operations David Provost discussed how outside financial aid impacts the college's financial aid for students at Middlebury.

They explained that financial aid at Middlebury comes in three main categories: grant money, student work and loans. If a student qualifies as having full need, outside aid will first reduce student work requirements and student loans and then reduce grant money.

They also detailed the yearly financial aid review process, the consideration of special circumstances (like lost jobs or medical emergencies) within the year, and the role of non-custodial parents. The rest of the April 11 meeting was devoted to internal discussions about who within the committee will draft future recommendations.

At the April 18 meeting, a student spoke to the Community Council about how Financial Services considers non-custodial parents in financial aid decisions, and in this student's case, required them to meet with their estranged parent. The student felt that the circumstances of this meeting "crossed several lines."

Revision to the Handbook's current protest policy was then discussed. Changes include the prevention of Public Safety's use of violence, and the prevention of criminal prosecution in cases of nonviolent protest.

Conversation then shifted to a discussion of a recommendation that would review the names of foods in the dining halls. The recommendation suggests changing the names "African Peanut Soup" and "Asian Snap Pea Salad." The recommendation was tabled.

At the April 25 meeting, Executive Director of Food Service Operations Dan Detora discussed recent dining hall changes. Besides the implementation of a swipe system, Detora also discussed how dining services is considering adding food in Wilson Hall and increasing the size of to-go boxes.

Co-Chair elect Kyle Wright '19.5 discussed the SGA resolution regarding Middlebury's protest policies. An important provision of this legislation recommends that the College reconsider disciplinary measures against those involved in protests against the Charles Murray talk.

Charles Rainey '19 presented an official recommendation for removing potentially offensive names for food served in the dining halls, which passed unanimously.

After passing this recommendation, Charles Rainey '19 and Maleka Stewart '19 presented the recommendation on the non-custodial parent waiver form for financial aid. The current form requires students not to be in contact with their parents for 10 years in order to obtain the waiver, a time period which the recommendation would change to one year. It would also change the basis for non-custodial waivers to change from an ability to pay model to a willingness to pay model. Finally, the recommendation suggests a shift to a case-worker model where Financial Services employees communicate with students whenever a problem which could impede a student's capacity to function at Middlebury arises.

After much discussion, Community Council decided to defer voting on this recommendation to a later meeting.

Students Elect SGA President, CC Co-Chairs

By Kyle Naughton
Senior Writer

The spring elections for the Student Government Association (SGA) were held on April 19, appointing a multitude of new representatives who will serve in the Senate next year.

Jin Sohn '18 was elected as the new President of SGA, while the Co-Chair of Community Council will be Kyle Wright '19.5 during the Fall semester and Tina Brook '18 during the Spring. Maryam Mahboob '18 and Hannah Pustejovsky '18 were elected as Senior Senators while Varsha Vijayakumar '20 and Jack Goldfield '20 will both serve as Sophomore Senators. The Juniors senators will be Kailash Pandey '19 for both terms, Elizabeth Warfel '19 in the Fall, and Violet Low-Beinart '19 in the Spring.

In terms of commons senators, John Gosselin '20 will be the Atwater Senator, Tori Koontz '20 will be the Brainerd Senator, Connor McCormick '18 will represent Cook Commons, Stephanie Andrews '18 will represent Ross Commons, and Andrew Salas '20 will be the Wonnacott Senator.

According to the Chair of the Elections Council, William Weightman '17, voter turnout for senate races this year was not significantly different from past elections, remaining at around 25-35 percent. However, this years' elections have been much more contested than previous races.

"Last year, all commons senate seats and the junior fall senate seats were uncontested," Weightman said. "This year only Wonnacott Commons and the Sophomore senate races were uncontested. This is a big improvement and gives students options in terms of being able to elect candidates that best represent their interests and concerns."

Weightman identified campaign controversy and competitiveness to be a crucial component for determining a given election's voter turnout. While this year's presidential election saw voter turnout decrease by nearly 22 percent, the competitive environment surrounding the Co-Chair election

SEE SGA, PAGE 3

Student Panelists Discuss "What Should Free Speech on Middlebury's Campus Look Like?"

By Caroline Agsten
News Editor

On April 24 the Student Government Association (SGA) in conjunction with *The Campus* hosted a panel that addressed the question "What Should Free Speech on Middlebury's Campus Look Like?" Student panelists included Juan Andrade-Vera '19, Hannah Blackburn '17, Austin Kahn '17.5 and Ivan Valladares '17.

In an email to the student body, the SGA Institutional Diversity Committee wrote, "In the midst of the recent Charles Murray incident, our campus has found itself again thrown into a difficult conversation concerning free speech, and we think it is high time that we take this conversation in a productive manner: attempting to define what free speech should look like on Middlebury's Campus."

Vice President for Academic Development Tim Spears delivered opening remarks that contextualized the history of free speech debates at the College. Spears cited instances of political activism in which issues of freedom of speech have been handled or employed.

"It seems to me that freedom of speech is often invoked, or you often see it in action, when groups want to speak to their own particular issue on campus and are shut down by others on campus," Spears said. "For instance, if political posters are put up in the student center and are then defaced or ripped down by students, then that has been interpreted as one group of students infringing on the freedom of speech of other students."

He continued, "What I'm trying to get at is the principle has been invoked in both ways. But from my opinion, I don't think freedom of speech has been invoked as explicitly as it has been in recent events."

Geovany Martinez '19, co-director of the Institutional Diversity Committee, asked the first question about how free speech can improve society and Middlebury's community.

Valladares began the conversation by reading opening remarks. "I think freedom of speech is a choice. As a private institution, Middlebury has to make that choice whether or not we want to allow freedom of speech to be unrestrained on our campus," he said. "If we then choose to not let all voices or ideas be heard in our community, then we are choosing to silence and repress certain people."

Kahn responded by noting that Valladares's perspective is often classified as an "absolutist idea of free speech." He continued, "[This idea] supports that all speech regardless of content or of the person speaking it should be absolutely protected under all circumstances. I think the underlying idea that supports that stance is a slippery slope."

Kahn disagreed that restricting certain speech will necessarily lead to a complete silencing of all forms of speech.

"One thing that's important to keep in mind during this conversation is that a lot of absolutist free speech advocates are making it sound like there are only two options. The first is the absolute whole-sale restriction of speech... The second is that all speech regardless of its impact or potential impact must be protected and permitted," he said. "I think that's a dangerous dichotomy."

According to Kahn, there is significant motivation for the College to dedicate time and thought to determine what sorts of speech can be qualified as "dangerously discriminatory," which would potentially violate other College policies of providing a space for students that is free of discrimination.

Andrade-Vera focused on addressing the question "Who is this for?" in relation to free speech. "I would say that the ultimate problem is that the Right keeps calling for this 'collective freedom of speech' and a 'collective freedom of support,' but often when I argue for my opinions or when I try to argue against Charles Murray, I don't feel that support. In fact, I feel the opposite of that," he said. "We should always ask who gets defended when they speak their mind and who doesn't."

Blackburn elaborated on Kahn's previous point about when speech conflicts with an institution's values. "I think there are a lot of ways that free speech isn't equally free in this current moment. I think part of our role in facilitating free speech is allowing free speech to be as truly free and as accessible to everyone as possible," she said. "In some ways that might mean holding back certain kinds of speech to create room for other types of speech that aren't heard."

Blackburn then suggested the creation of other processes for how speakers are brought to campus. "When a speaker is brought to campus by a small group of students, the onus falls on everyone else to make a convincing argument for why they shouldn't be allowed, which often gets portrayed as censorship," she said.

Other questions and topics focused on the role of protests and free speech, the definition of hate speech, institutionalizing certain voices, community standards and ideas of inclusion.

Second Revival of Parker-Merrill Speech Competition Declares Winner

By Kate Criscitiello
Staff Writer

On April 20, Middlebury College's initiative Oratory Now hosted the second revival of the Parker-Merrill Speech Competition. The event, originally established in 1825, took a 50-year hiatus before being reintroduced last year. This year, the competition's topic was "What if instead...we try this?"

The six finalists were Anna Dennis '17.5, Griffin Price '20, Kyle Meredith '19, Lynn Travnikova '20, Sarah Howard '19 and Tabitha Mueller '18. Each delivered a 6-minute speech that was judged by three faculty judges: Reginald L. Cook Professor of American Literature Brett Millier, Assistant Professor of Dance Christal Brown and Knox Professor of International Studies Jeff Cason.

The contestants were judged on three categories: persuasiveness of idea, persuasiveness of argument and persuasiveness of delivery.

According to the competition's organizer, Visiting Assistant Professor of Theater Dana Yeaton, it was important that more value be placed on the content of the speech. "We don't want you to just dazzle us with your footwork; we want you to say something," he said.

The finalist's arguments breached a wide range of topics. Meredith spoke of how "people experience the world in extremely different ways that all feel undeniably real," which leads to increased negativity and dogmatism. Mueller described the dangers and hurt caused by people's biases and assumptions of others. Price spoke about the country's relationship with terrorism and media coverage.

Travnikova, who tied for second and won a $250 prize, argued for the benefits of being conscious consumers. Howard, who also tied for second, discussed the importance of being present in one's day-to-day life.

Dennis, the competition's champion and recipient of $500, spoke about "the role of emotional intelligence and vulnerability on campus." Dennis chose this topic because of the problems she sees with interpersonal communication, believing that "vulnerability is actually the source of our power; the emotions and experiences that are revealed when people are vulnerable with one another are what unite us."

In order to be a successful speaker, Yeaton believes that one must consider the audience.

"A successful speechmaker grabs an audience and never lets go. Which is almost impossibly difficult, and can only happen if the speech was conceived with that audience in mind. Great speechmakers are more like singer-songwriters than they are philosophers," he said.

In addition, Travnikova also mentioned the importance of the audience in public speaking. "[Success is reached through] the ability to understand one's audience and ensure a connection is made through the words being said; being able to eloquently and succinctly convey ideas through words, and also your presentation," she said.

Yeaton believes that public speaking has a great impact on both societal and individual levels.

"Public speaking is the glue that holds society together. Or fails to. And what could be more empowering than believing you have the heart and mind and body it takes to project your ideas to an audience?" he said. "On the flip-side, if you don't want to be manipulated, you better learn the tricks people are using to manipulate us."

Regarding the importance of public speaking, Price also believes in its power.

"Public speaking has the power to reach beyond what is possible with just the written word. It taps into an immense human craving for storytelling that is central to our identity as a species. This makes it immensely important to the way we can understand ourselves and the world around us," he said.

Oratory Now also works with organizations such as TEDx and other events such as Spring Student Symposium. They also offer coaching to faculty and students.

Middlebury Community Observes Holocaust Remembrance Day

By Bridget Colliton
Staff Writer

A ceremony for Holocaust Remembrance Day, or Yom HaShoah, took place on Sunday, April 23, in Mead Memorial Chapel. The College's Charles P. Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life sponsored the event, and students Sarah Asch '19.5, Cece Alter '19.5 and Hannah Krutiansky '19 — all board members of Hillel — worked with Rabbi Ira J. Schiffer to plan it. Middlebury College has been hosting Holocaust Remembrance ceremonies since the late 1970s. This event brought together students involved in Hillel as well as members of Havurah, the Addison County Jewish Congregation, in remembrance of the genocide that claimed the lives of over six million Jews.

The service began with a background address delivered by Chaplain of the College Laurie Jordan '79 and ended with a Benediction by Schiffer. The event also featured a candle lighting ceremony, memorial prayers and musical interludes sung by the Middlebury College Choir. Both students and community members recited texts and led the congregation in song.

After the candle lighting ceremony, Alter and Krutiansky both spoke about their grandparents' experiences during the Holocaust and the importance of remembering their stories in order to prevent future tragedies. "I think as we get farther and farther away from the Holocaust it's easier to not think about, but especially as a Jew it's such a part of our history and something that's really important to remember, especially for me since my family was involved," Alter said.

Both Alter and Krutiansky emphasized the Holocaust's relevance to the current political climate. "When I went to Auschwitz with my grandfather, there was a teacher there who asked my grandfather if there was one thing I could teach my students, what would you want it to be, and he said 'To love everyone,'" Krutiansky said. "When you love everyone, it's much harder to get into such dangerous situations"

Local physician Dr. Jack Mayer, author of "Before the Court of Heaven," spoke next, focusing on Germany's descent into Nazism. Mayer drew a comparison between Germany's pre-1933 Weimar Republic and the United States' current political climate, noting, "The Nazis wanted to make Germany great again."

Asch, Krutiansky and Alter all serve as board members on Hillel, Middlebury's Jewish student organization. Hillel holds services in the Freeman International Center every Friday night followed by a dinner, and also hosts other events for Middlebury's Jewish student community. "It's nice to have a Jewish space away from home," Asch said. "Hillel offers a really great place to kind of reconnect with Judaism, because for a lot of kids college is the first time they've had to seek out a religious community."

Budget Woes Impact Tuition

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cent, while expenses increased by five percent. To compensate for that deficit, Provost expects that the College will raise tuition by four to five percent above the rate of inflation in next year's budget.

Provost said that the College expects its yearly tuition growth to stabilize at roughly three percent by 2020 or 2021. By that point, it hopes to achieve financial stability — a state in which its revenues meet or exceed its expenses.

Once that process is completed, Provost expects the College's tuition to rank in the middle to top third of its so-called "peer overlap institutions" — a group that he defined as "where [Middlebury students] didn't go, but where they applied to."

Provost anticipates an increase in financial aid funding next year along with tuition, asserting that tuition growth "won't significantly affect our ability to attract a lot more high-need students."

In the long-term, Provost said that President of Middlebury Laurie L. Patton hopes to increase the College's endowment in order to fund financial aid, moving away from the current system, which funds aid largely through revenue collected from tuition payments.

SGA ELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCED

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

saw an increase in voter turnout of 11 percent.

"One of the most important determinants of voter turnout is the competitiveness of the races," Weightman said. "As such, I think the primary goal of the Elections Council to increase voter turnout going forward is to ensure that all races are contested and that we continue to have elections that are transparent, professional, and accessible to all [students]."

Sohn, who currently serves as the SGA's Chief of Staff, feels particularly excited to serve as SGA President next year. "I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to have ran for SGA President," Sohn said. "For me, this [campaign] was another great opportunity to engage with the larger [Middlebury] community, specifically to speak with and listen to students on our campus."

Sohn hopes to address many of the student body's concerns during her upcoming term as president, specifying the need to facilitate constructive conversations between varying perspectives. She also hopes to improve administrative accountability and transparency while streamlining the SGA's inclusivity and accessibility.

"One [topic] that has come up in multiple conversations is the need for more perspective," Sohn said. "I believe there needs to be more initiatives that [provide] the institutional weight and support for students' voices to be heard and create opportunities for students to collaborate with the administration, campus staff, and each other."

Wright shared Sohn's optimism for his upcoming term as Co-Chair of Community Council. He feels that the student body has successfully elected capable representatives who have the general needs of the community in mind. While campaigning, Wright made a conscious effort to prioritize his platform and discussions with individuals over a social media presence.

"I have never run my campaigns with an emphasis on fostering or social media advertising," Wright said. "I have instead focused on connecting with individual members of our community and organizations to develop highly comprehensive platforms that are grounded in the lived experiences of students, faculty, and staff."

Wright has also stressed the need to improve communication on Middlebury's campus, citing the lack of communicative interconnectedness between students, administrative departments, and faculty as both a barrier to defining and protecting inclusivity.

"In my experience as Res life staff and as an SGA senator," Wright said, "I find communication on our campus to be very siloed. This lack of interconnectedness isn't just a barrier to inclusivity, it's a barrier to discussing what terms like that even mean for our community."

Looking forward, Wright hopes to enforce the position of Community Council as the central forum for all non-academic issues on campus. Additionally, he intends to unify ties between administrative bodies such as MCAB, ICC, Faculty Council, and the SGA to eliminate any potential redundancies and streamline constructive conversations. At the center of his platform, Wright has prioritized the incorporation of "coalition resistance" within Middlebury.

"Coalition resilience acknowledges that challenging conversations do not occur in a vacuum," Wright said. "[It] is a departure from rhetoric and confrontational free speech as the primary modes of community building and instead leans towards micro-conversation and critical self-reflection. As the Co-Chair elect, I am striving to create prototypical spaces such as these right now, and I hope that the Middlebury community will continue to join me in these efforts."

Tina Brook '18 felt particularly proud of her election, as the originally uncontested position ended up becoming particularly competitive. Brook won the race with 39.26 percent of the vote, slightly above Charles Rainey '19's 37.87 percent and Jack Carew '20's 22.86 percent. Due to the contested nature of her campaign, Brook felt compelled to abandon her previously relaxed style of campaigning to reach more students and remain vocal about her candidacy.

"I am thrilled with the results, but do not in any way think that it was an easy win," Brook said. "The margin between myself and the runner-up was quite small, which is a testament to how widely recognized the issues mentioned in both our platforms were, and how important it is moving forward to engage with those ideals too."

Similar to Wright, Brook has specified that her main focus as Co-Chair of Community Council will be the improvement of communication on Middlebury's campus to achieve higher levels of inclusion and student engagement.

"I know that Kyle's focus will revolve around accessibility and inclusion across all identities," Brook said. "My hope is to continue on with the work that he starts in the Spring in a similar fashion. How I intend on addressing concerns of communication is to immediately implement spaces of discussion, be that digital or physical [outlets] for students to voice their concerns and be heard."

Swipe System and MiddCard Dollars Introduced for Fall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

patterns and adjust food quantities accordingly to limit food waste after meals. The administration has also expressed the possibility of altering dining hall hours based on student's eating patterns.

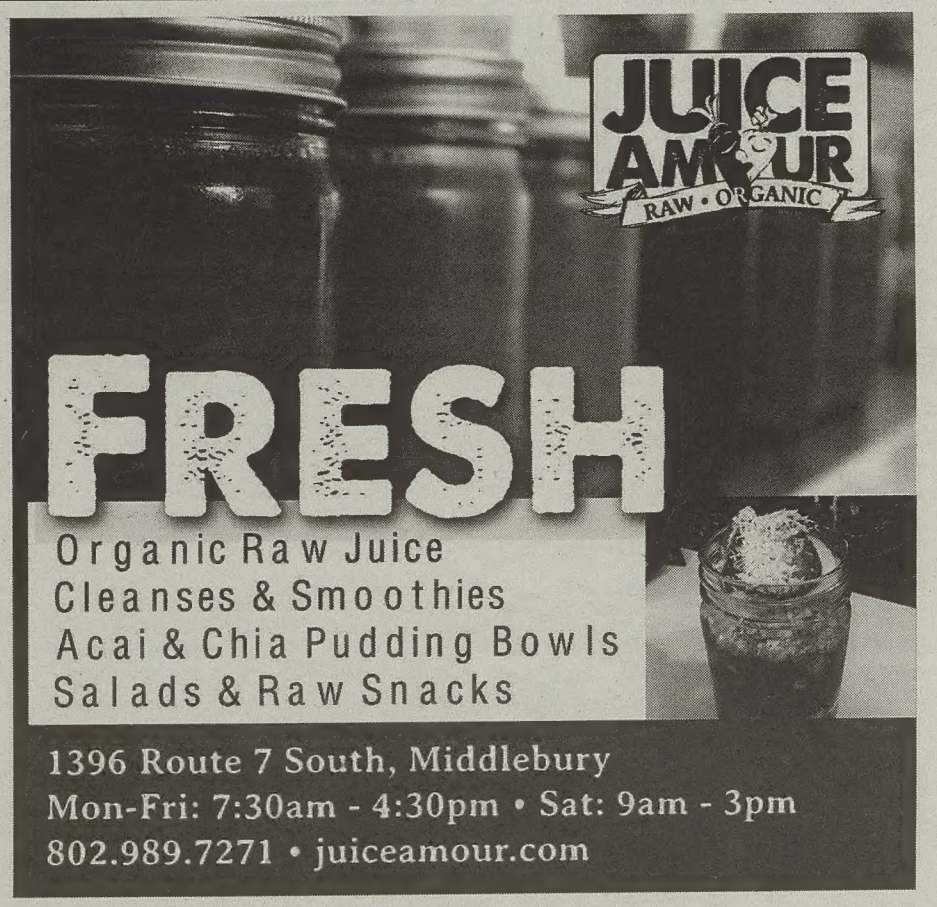
In the coming fall semester, all students who live on campus will be under an unlimited meal. Students will still be able to access all dining halls during all open times, only they will now need to first swipe in with their MiddCard.

MiddCards will also provide students with four guest passes and a 50 dollar declining balance per semester, which adds up to a total of eight guest passes and a 100 dollar declining balance for the entire year. Spare guest passes or declining balances will carry over from the fall semester into the spring, but neither will transfer to the next academic year.

The MiddCard's declining balance may be spent at any Middlebury dining service location, including The Grille, Crossroads Café, MiddExpress, Wilson Café, 51 Main, the Snow Bowl snack bar, Rehearsals and the BiHall Kiosk. Starting Friday, April 28, students and parents will have the option to add money onto the MiddCard through Middlebury's Campus Card Center website; additional dollars added to a student's MiddCard will not only carry over from semester to semester, but also from year to year.

The administration has stated that students living off-campus next fall will have multiple meal plan options, but these choices have yet to be specified. Off-campus students will, however, have the opportunity to avoid a college meal plan altogether.

Depending on the success of the swipe system during the fall semester, the administration will consider implementing additional meal plans for the general student body next spring. Executive Director of Food Service Operations, Dan Detora, as well as the SGA-appointed Dining Committee are particularly open to feedback and will try to take students' opinions into account when creating future meal options.



Relay for Life Event Raises $45,000

By Catherine Pollack
Staff Writer

On April 22, about 400 Middlebury community members gathered on Battell Loop to participate in the College's 14th Annual Relay for Life event. This year's event raised almost $45,000 out of the $57,000 goal. All proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society.

Out of the 35 teams, the Middlebury Football team raised the most money with over $6,000.

The event was held from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. and began with opening ceremonies and a "survivor lap."

"It's extremely meaningful to see the survivors take a lap around the track together, smiling and being cheered on by the rest of the participants," said Sarah Caffry '17. "The Survivor/Caregiver lap is particularly impactful to me, because the role of caregiver is one that I think deserves a lot more acknowledgment. Your chief job as caregiver is to love, and that's sometimes both the easiest and hardest thing to do in these situations."

Throughout the day, there were musical performances from Middlebury acapella groups and dance performances from Riddim. Activities also included Zumba, cornhole, spikeball and a raffle. There was also a dinner held for cancer survivors in the Freeman International Center.

"I love how Relay for Life brings our entire community together. Both Middlebury College students and community members are able to spend an afternoon in solidarity, fighting back against a disease that impacts so many," said Nicole Caci '17. "For a few hours, Relay lets us all come together to remember the loved ones we've lost, honor our survivors and show our commitment to making sure that no one else has to hear the words 'you have cancer.'"

The day concluded with the Speaker Series, which led into the Luminaria Ceremony. During the Speaker Series, individuals shared their stories, which illuminated the vast differences among cancer narratives. In the following Luminaria Ceremony, the Battel Loop was lined with decorated bags. Participants were given glow sticks, which they cracked as a tribute to those that they have lost to cancer and to honor the survivors. Participants then silently walked around the loop and dropped their glow sticks into the decorated bags.

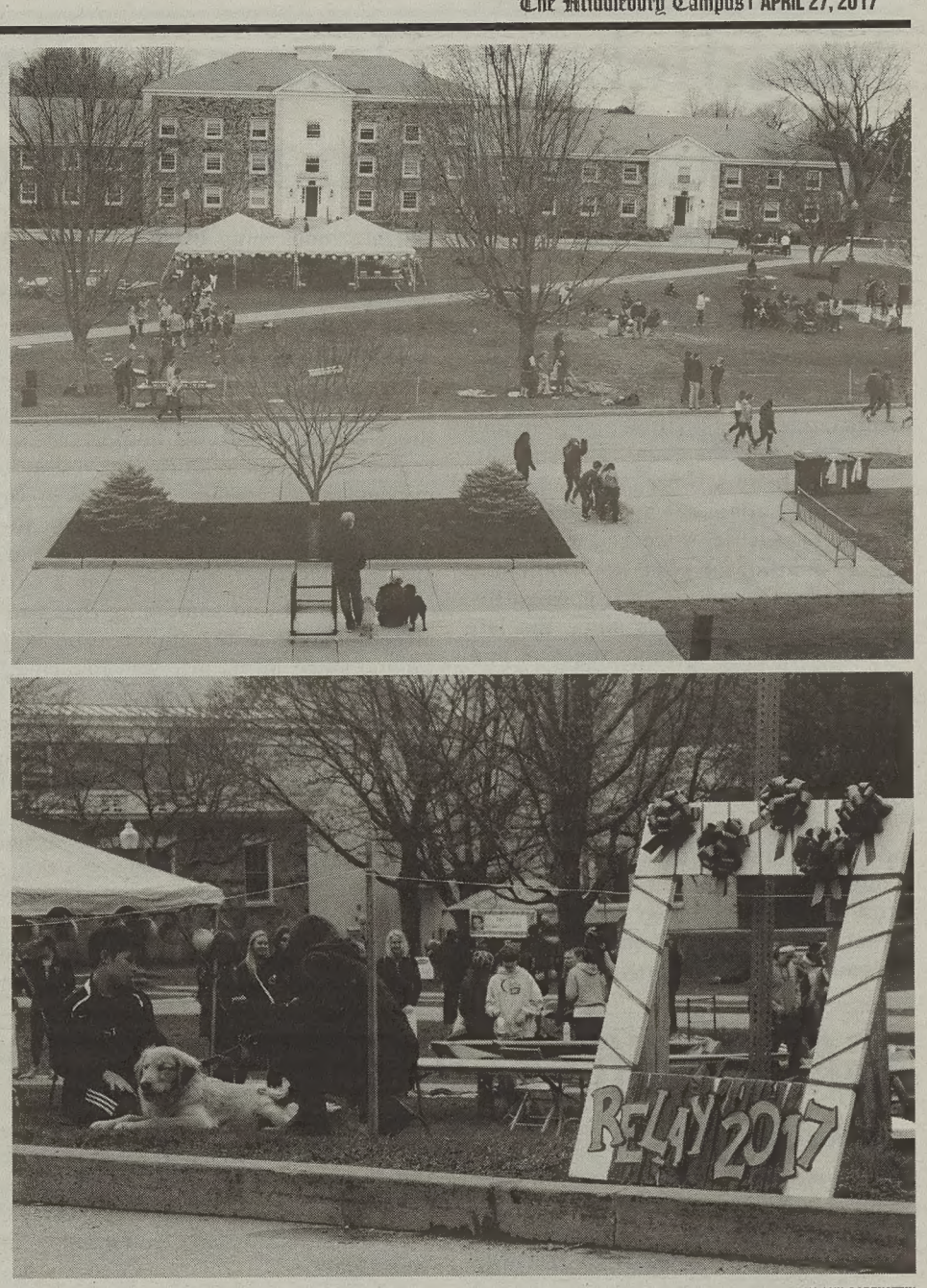
"The Luminaria Ceremony is a beautiful tribute to such important people, and really reminds us why we raise money for the American Cancer Society," Caci said.

"This event is super important to me because it's one of the few times where I get to acknowledge the way cancer has impacted my life in a positive way," said co-president of the College's chapter of Relay for Life Isabella Alonzo '18. "It's a time when people who have different backgrounds with cancer get to unite because we all have one thing in common: we are actively working toward a cancer-free world."

Two years ago, the event was moved from the Kenyon Hockey Arena to the Battel Loop. Because of its centrality on campus, Relay for Life Committee Members found that this transition increased participation, awareness and fundraising totals. In the past two years, Relay for Life committee members also created a committee system. The system delegates responsibilities across a number of chair positions: entertainment chair, cause-connection chair, food and beverage chair, team recruitment chair, logistics chair and publicity chair.

"I was amazed to see how many people came out to support this cause. I can't wait to see what next year brings for us!" said co-president Kathryn Bullen '18.

The College has hosted a Relay for Life event since 2004.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

On April 22, 35 teams comprised of over 400 Middlebury community members gathered on Battell Loop for the annual Relay for Life day-long event.

MIDDLEBURY MAPLE RUN

NEW FOR 2017 3-MILE FUN RUN

All ages welcome! Walkers, too!

3 mile Fun Run: $40
13.1 miles Individual: $45
13.1 miles 2-person relay team: $65

visit the race website for online registration and race details
www.middleburymaplerun.com

- UnTapped maple shot for every runner
- Free cotton t-shirt (register by 4/21)
- Live music from student bands along the course
- Finishers' medals from Middlebury's Maple Landmark
- Proceeds go to local charities

Sponsored By

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT · DEPPMAN & FOLEY · WHISTLEPIG STRAIGHT RYE WHISKEY · MARBLE TRAIL FINANCIAL · OMYA · IPJ Real Estate · The University of Vermont HEALTH NETWORK Porter Medical Center

VERMONT'S "SWEETEST" HALF MARATHON, RELAY, AND FUN RUN
9 A.M. SUNDAY MAY 7, 2017

Tufts UNIVERSITY

Tufts Summer Session 2017
Explore. Prepare. Achieve.

Over 170 Courses
Day, Evening, and Online Courses
Affordable Tuition
Outstanding Tufts Faculty
High School, University, and Professional Options

Courses Offered May – August

Additional **SHORT COURSES** and **WORKSHOPS** running throughout the summer!

Sign up today at
go.tufts.edu/middlebury

Vt. House Bill Tackles Issues of Racial Bias

By Amelia Pollard
Contributing Writer

As one of the whitest states in the country, Vermont is attempting to adjust for racial bias after data has surfaced surrounding discrimination in traffic stops. The demand for legislative action has stemmed from a state-based non-profit called Justice For All.

According to a study conducted by the organization Crime Research Group, black drivers in Vermont are twice as likely to be arrested after a traffic stop than white drivers. The non-profit was selected as the vendor to collect the traffic stop and race data by the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council. These figures drove Justice For All's Co-founder and Executive Director, Mark Hughes, to propose a bill to address racial bias in the criminal justice system.

The bill, H.308, has already passed through both the Congress and Senate, and is now awaiting approval from Governor Phil Scott. According to the proposed legislation, the bill includes a 13-person "advisory panel" to direct the state in "racial disparities in the criminal and juvenile justice system."

With the rise in statistics, such as those from The Sentencing Project, which cited the stark racial disparity of incarceration throughout Vermont, lawmakers have become determined to address the issues of racial bias throughout the criminal justice system.

In regards to promoting and drafting legislation, "data is the linchpin of all monitoring capability," Hughes said.

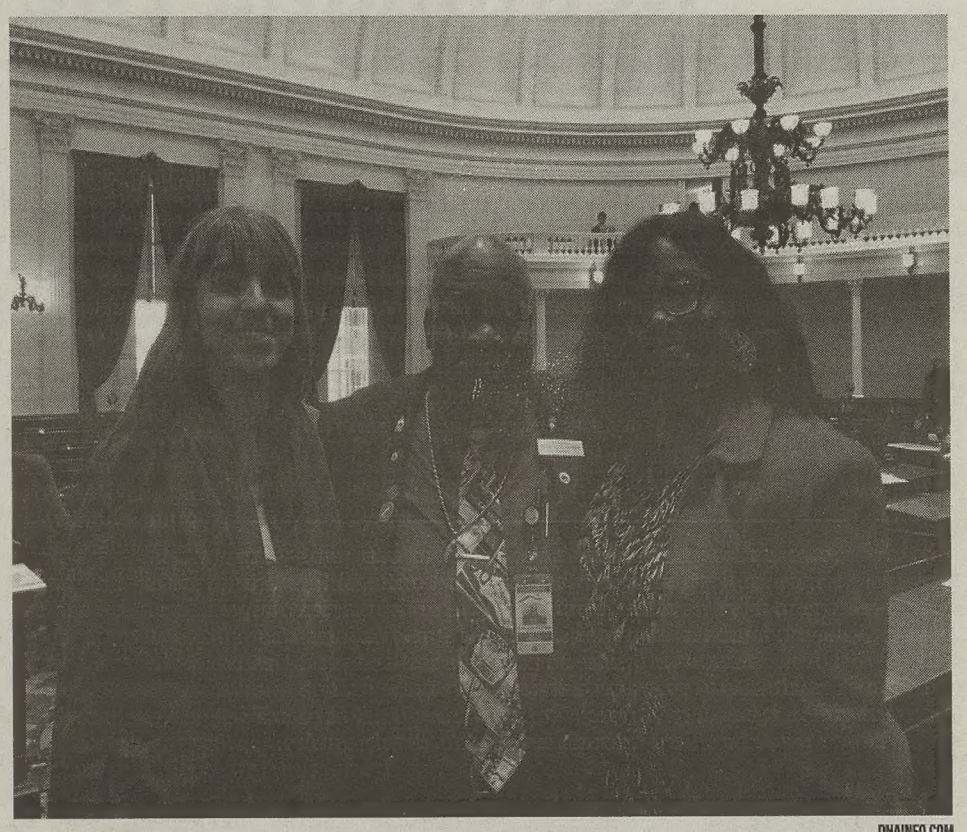
The Crime Research Group's data has continued to play a significant role in promoting the bill. They were selected as the primary vendor for data collection of traffic stops by the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council last year. All of the data is posted publicly on their website, and provides greater transparency in the criminal justice system.

"I think law enforcement has been very open to providing the data, and I think for the most part Vermont State Police has done a pretty incredible job of training all of their officers on how data needs to be collected and published," the Crime Research Group's Executive Director Karen Gennette said. "I think that we'll find many law enforcement agencies will be willing and interested in doing the same thing."

Although the bill has garnered support by politicians through this data, some are unsatisfied with the stigma that the advisory panel is pegging to the police force. Representative Gary Viens (R) of Newport has expressed pushback on the bill, particularly with his 32 years of personal experience in law enforcement.

Regardless of debate in Congress, the bill passed unanimously in the Senate on Thursday, April 21, after a third reading. Senator Jeanette White (D) addressed the fear of stigma that Viens and others had expressed by claiming in an interview with Vermont Digger that the advisory board was meant to address the system as a whole, rather than a specific sector.

"This bill, when passed, will be a small step in the right direction towards addressing what we know now to be an issue in the state," Hughes said. "It's my hope that this bill will continue to raise awareness and attention."



DNAINFO.COM

Bernie Sanders supporters line up at a rally for the candidate in Brooklyn, NY.

Recent Study Reveals Decline in Vermont Bird Populations Over the Past 25 Years

By Paul Donelon
Contributing Writer

In the spring, summer and fall, Vermont is filled with the sounds and sights of numerous birds and their songs – but according to a new study by the Vermont Center for Ecostudies, Vermont's total bird population has declined 14.2 percent since 1989. 13 species of Vermont birds studied significantly decreased in population since the start of the survey, said Steve Faccio, the co-author of the study and an ecologist at the Vermont Center for Ecostudies.

The exact cause of the birds' decline in Vermont is unknown, but is theorized to include multiple factors. Among these factors is the introduction of invasive species that are not native to Vermont, the global trend of general climate change, the fragmentation of Vermont's forest ranges by humans and damage done to forests by acid rain.

The Vermont bird study was conducted by reviewing the culmination of 25 years of bird surveys completed by volunteers between 1989 and 2013. The study began with 11 survey sites in unmanaged and rural parts of Vermont forests and progressively expanded to 31 survey sites in similarly pastoral and undeveloped parts of the Vermont countryside. The study of the birds away from roads and developments allowed the researchers to get a better look at the purely natural and undisturbed ecosystem of the birds without a direct human variable.

The most intense decline was found in the type of insect-eating birds categorized as "aerial insectivores," in which the population decreased 45 percent. This category includes birds such as the Vermont whippoorwill, nighthawk, chimney swift and tree swallow. The single most rapid decline of bird species was the common blue jay, which saw a 25 percent decline between 1989 and 2013 in Vermont. The specific cause of the decline of these insect-eating birds is not entirely clear.

> ***"Be mindful of the things that negatively affect forest ecosystems — fragmentation, climate change, invasive species — and do what you can to avoid contributing to those impacts, as well as opposing actions/policies that contribute to them."***
>
> STEVE FACCIO
> ECOLOGIST AT VERMONT CENTER FOR ECOSTUDIES

"It seems likely that changes in insect abundance or the timing of insect emergence plays a bigger role than habitat loss," said Steve Faccio, the co-author of the study, in an email to *The Campus*.

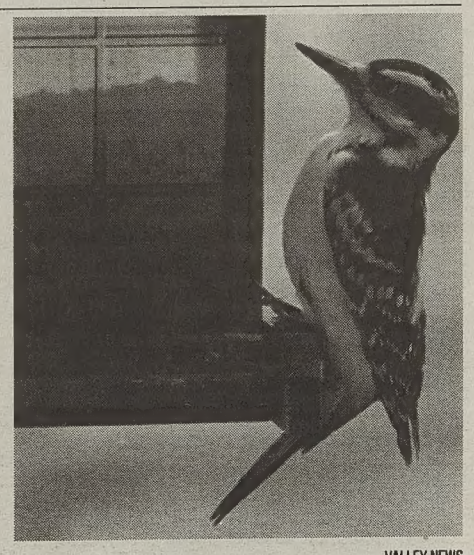
According to the study, changes in insect emergence stem from global climate change. Because of climate change, insects emerge and hatch earlier than usual, before the birds are active. This eventually results in fewer insects for the birds to consume, harming the bird population. According to Faccio, it is still too early to know definitively whether the change in insect emergence is the deciding factor behind the decline of the birds.

VALLEY NEWS

The Blackburnian Warbler, a bird species, has been on the decline in Vermont.

Apart from the population decline, eight species, including the pileated woodpecker, mourning dove and the American robin, increased in population. Many of the birds that declined slightly during the first decade of the study stabilized themselves during the last fifteen years.

When asked what Middlebury students and the community could do on an individual level to help protect birds and keep them healthy, Faccio responded, "Be mindful of the things that negatively affect forest ecosystems—fragmentation, climate change, invasive species—and do what you can to avoid contributing to those impacts, as well as opposing actions/policies that contribute to them."



VALLEY NEWS

The Downy Woodpecker is seen above.

OPINIONS

Disclaimer: Reader op-eds do not reflect the opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* editorial board.

The Middlebury Campus

Rethinking The Judicial Process

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of The Middlebury Campus.

In the wake of the highly controversial protests against Charles Murray — which raised questions about the nature of free speech, political expression and power imbalances at Middlebury — many students are facing College discipline for their participation in the protests. This situation has caused us to consider the ramifications — academic, social and emotional — of Middlebury's judicial process in its current form, and whether that process is sufficiently swift, fair and holistic.

We are not the only ones to have asked this question; on Monday, April 24, the SGA passed a bill put forward by Community Council Co-Chair Travis Sanderson '19 and Brainerd Senator Kyle Wright '19. The bill seeks to alter existing language in the "protests and demonstrations" section of the College Handbook, the specifics of which can be found at go/sga. On the whole, we support the bill, which includes changes such as explicitly forbidding Public Safety from using violent force. But furthermore, we believe that the way in which judicial processes are currently carried out — as exemplified by the Charles Murray case — are unduly harmful to students and exacerbate feelings of distrust between members of the college community, regardless of the final verdict.

As a private institution, Middlebury has competing interests and motives. One of those motives, undoubtedly, is to do right by its students. But other motives — maintaining a "positive" image in the press and maintaining credibility in the eyes of alumni, for example — can sometimes seem to compete with the College's responsibility to its current students. At moments, it feels as though those motives are directly at odds. We feel this with the Charles Murray case, as some alumni and members of the non-Middlebury community have called for severe punishments of student protesters, including expulsion. Without clear communication from administrators about the disciplinary process, students are left only to surmise that these pressures are leading to more serious disciplinary action. Some students facing hearings with administrators are the same students who have worked closely with the same administrators to enact positive changes on our campus this year. The previously established trust between these students and administrators has taken a hit due to overwhelming uncertainty, regardless of the specific outcomes of these hearings.

This ties into the problematic nature of the administration's communication with students in general, as we have addressed in past editorials. The administration's relationship to students is not a new issue, and it is certainly not specific to the Murray incident. Therefore, we would hope that those responsible for managing this judicial process take this as a clear opportunity to demonstrate the dedication the administration has to clarity and fairness. It is no secret that this is an important moment for the Middlebury community, and College administrations' treatment of students during this judicial process must reflect a commitment to a community of respect.

The discipline process is painstakingly long. It happens largely behind closed doors and without public accountability. This lack of accountability, sadly, holds across numerous administrative issues — not simply judicial processes. The manner in which the Murray protest investigation has been conducted thus far raises questions as to the fairness of which students are receiving discipline; in its statement to the community, the College has declined to comment on the nature and range of disciplinary action taken against protesters.

We as an editorial board have decided not to comment on the final outcome of this process; we direct you to various Notes from the Desk for a diversity of editorial opinions on the subject. Rather, we would like to make clear that we aim to critique the process; the ways in which the administration has attempted to gather data and generate oral confessions — without putting much in writing, when pressed for heightened transparency — is unduly convoluted and manipulative.

In addition, the process is decidedly non-holistic; it disregards the emotional wellbeing of students who put themselves in a position of vulnerability to protect the already-vulnerable. In proceeding with disciplinary action against protesters, we implore the administration to consider the mental and emotional health of students in their management of these incredibly sensitive cases. We hope that the administration will take action to alleviate the uncertainty that continues to foster an environment that further marginalizes the marginalized.

The Middlebury Campus

EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Ellie Reinhardt
MANAGING EDITOR
Christian Jambora
BUSINESS MANAGER
Julien Miller
NEWS EDITORS
Caroline Agsten, Will DiGravio, Nick Garber, Elaine Velie
OPINIONS EDITORS
Hannah Blackburn, Nina Colombotos, Sara Hodgkins, Thomas Leaycraft, Edward O'Brien
SPORTS EDITORS
Will Case, Emily Bustard, Sebastian Sanchez, Rob Erickson
LOCAL EDITORS
Annie Grayer, Alessandria Schumacher, Rebecca Walker
FEATURES EDITORS
Sarah Asch, Renee Chang, Charmaine Lam, Alex Newhouse
ARTS AND SCIENCE EDITORS
Finne Murphy, Sabine Poux, Yvette Shi
PHOTOS EDITORS
Michael Borenstein, Anahi Naranjo, Michael O'Hara
DESIGN EDITORS
Emma Hatheway, Julia Hatheway, Cordelia Prouvost
CARTOON EDITOR
Nolan Ellsworth
ONLINE EDITORS
Pyone Aye, Jerrica Davy, Felicia Tapia
COPY EDITOR
Rachel Iacono
THE CAMPUS VOICE HOSTS
Sara Hodgkins
OFFICE MANAGER
Sarah Koenigsberg

The content written within the Opinions pages may cause emotional distress. Please exercise discretion.

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign CS5 and is printed by the Press Republican in New York. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

LEAVE YOUR ATTITUDES AT HOME

MIDDLIFE CRISIS

***Esme Valette '16** writes about pack mentality on campus.*

Donald Trump has proclaimed April as "National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month," affirming his commitment to reducing and ultimately ending sexual violence in our Nation. Kind of ironic coming from the man who's been accused of sexually assaulting more than fifteen women and caught on tape bragging about his right to "grab 'em by the pussy." While I do not support our country's president, I am committed to raising awareness about sexual abuse and fighting against it. So in keeping with this month's theme, let me tell you about some of the predatory pack behavior that I was privy to at Middlebury College.

I was studying for a biology exam when I got the email. Sleep-deprived and drowning in my pre-med workload, I welcomed the reprieve offered by the ping in my inbox.

From: Senior Dudes hunterandhunted6969@gmail.com
Date: May 7, 2014 11:23:34 PM EDT
Subject: Reverse Cougar Party!!! Top Secret!!!

Ladies,

If you are receiving this e-mail you are amongst the lucky few invited to the 50th annual Hunters and the Hunted Party. A group of senior guys have each selected one of you as their date for the night. Couples will be revealed upon your arrival at the party. This is a great honor and should not be taken lightly.

To clarify, the theme for the party is "Hunters and Hunted." Each senior guy will be dressed up as a hunter while dates are expected to dress up as animals that are customarily hunted, either in the foothills of Africa, the backwoods of Vermont, or elsewhere.

The party will take place in Atwater Suite M Entrance B, 4th floor on Friday, May 9th at 10:30 p.m. Please leave your attitudes at home. If this party conflicts with your schedule, or any firm feminist ideals you may hold, please reply to this e-mail address so we can find a replacement date.

Beer, punch, wine, and Svedka will be provided.

Cheers,
Men of the Class of 2014

At first, I was flattered to be invited to such an exclusive party. This is a great honor and should not be taken lightly. Reader, I can feel you rolling your eyes at the "men" who composed this email, and also at me for my naiveté. But I'm a human being with an ego, and I did feel genuinely honored in that brief moment: validated, desired, and... well, cool.

The Senior Dudes responsible for these types of exclusive date parties were fraternity brothers. Although Greek life was apparently "banned for good" at Middlebury College after "a crudely battered female mannequin" dangled from a frat balcony in 1998[1], frat culture is still pervasive in the Middlebury social scene today. There are four secret frats that I know about, each with about 25 to 30 members.

It was only when I began to think logistically about the party that my "firm feminist ideals" set in. Was I actually "expected" to dress up as a hunted animal? So I'd be dressed as a deer or an elk or something drinking Svedka next to an older guy who'd be playing the role of my "hunter"? Wasn't that kind of...rape-y?

When I re-read the email, it occurred to me that the premise of the party was an unimaginative way of asserting sexual dominance. The Senior Dudes could not have picked a more blatant theme for perpetuating gender prejudice: "Hunters and Hunted," artlessly clarifying that the guys were to be the hunters and the girls were expected to dress as the hunted. Also note the double 69 wedged into the email address, a wink to their sexual entitlement. This behavior was not only crude, unoriginal, and ultimately boring, but it was also rooted in cowardice. Unable to handle the strength and spirit of college-aged women, the Senior Dudes were asking us point-blank to "leave [our] attitudes at home." They were hiding behind an anonymous email address and a predatory ritual instead of appealing to women using their own charm and charisma.

I responded to the email with a curt, "I can't go." Later that week, someone posted about me on Yik-Yak: "Esmé's walk = does anal." Being an anonymous social platform, Yik-Yak allows users to hide behind an app while spewing criticism. There's no way to know who sent that Yak, but it certainly reflected the cowardice displayed by the "Senior Dudes."

Receiving the "Hunters and Hunted" invitation wasn't the first time that I'd been privy to predatory pack behavior at Middlebury College — a school reputed for its smart and progressive student body. Earlier that year, an ex-pseudo-boyfriend of mine (a frat-boy that we'll call Tim) had coldly relayed to me the intimate details that had been shared about my sex-life in the proverbial "boy's locker room" — the things I'd said, the noises I'd made. Never in my life had I felt so violated, so crushed with shame. Tim claimed that he wasn't trying to hurt my feelings, but instead to give me a "window into male psychology" with anecdotes about his fraternity — like the initiation ritual that required the freshman boys to yell out names of the "sluttiest girls they've fucked" on campus (because objectifying women is such a bonding experience).

Tim was justifying this kind of crude and misogynistic behavior by portraying it as an inevitable symptom of "male psychology." Kind of like how Melania Trump defended the lewd comments made by her husband on a leaked tape with a perfunctory "boys will be boys.[2]" But Donald Trump is not a boy, and neither are the "Senior Dudes" that Middlebury is sending out into the world each year to fill high positions in society and in the workplace. Let's stop dismissing sexist pack behavior with the notion that men are somehow wired to compete for, prey on, and ultimately debase women. Man is not an animal, but a cultural and intellectual being. He has the power to stick up for women in the locker room and not hide behind a pack.

We Need Healing Not Discipline

NOTES FROM THE DESK

***Opinions Editors Sara Hodgkins '17.5 and Edward O'Brien '17** write about college discipline after the Murray protest.*

This week our editorial focuses on reforming the judicial process at Middlebury, particularly in relation to sanctions the College is giving to Charles Murray protesters — all protestors who were in the room, turned their backs and chanted. We write this as an appeal to the administrators on behalf of those who protested Charles Murray. We urge administrators to read this carefully, with heart and soul in and ego aside. We believe that protesters did not violate community guidelines.

Here is our premise: we think the administration needs to be particularly careful, holistic and sensitive given the fraught and delicate nature of why people protested in this case. We think there are three basic ways that the College needs to approach this situation differently than they are.

First, we do not believe it fits with community guidelines to punish protesters. When we come to Middlebury, we agree to follow certain community guidelines with the intent of fostering a strong community. That is why we have an Honor Code. When people somehow betray the community, we take disciplinary action. But we argue that those who protested the Charles Murray event did so out of deep commitment to the community.

When a man to campus who calls into question the humanity of some of the students on this campus, to protest that man shows a commitment, a solidarity and a respect for the humanity of the people he dehumanizes. No, the protest did not happen in a way that was convenient for the administration (quietly with signs under a certain size, neatly outside the auditorium). Save for those who followed Murray and became violent, however, most people in Wilson engaged in a disruptive (is that not the point of protest? To disrupt oppressive systems of power?) but nonviolent protest that demonstrated not only our school's intolerance for intolerance, but also that we stand with people of color, women and low-income students on this campus. Does it really fall in the spirit of violating community guidelines if you do it with the intention of defending community members?

We argue, then, that the protest was perfectly in line with community guidelines and with Middlebury's core beliefs, perhaps even more so than the administration was. The protest stood up to those in authority to say that we stand with everyone on this campus who feels vulnerable today. Even if you do not believe Murray represented these things (and we disagree with you if that's the case), then you must acknowledge that this was the intent of the protest. If this is the case, then to proceed with normal disciplinary processes — designed for those who have somehow betrayed the community — is riding roughshod over any intent of the protestors and demonstrates that the administration has not heard them. It's not enough to smile and apologize while putting someone on disciplinary probation — if we believe these things to be true, then we should not put them on disciplinary probation.

Second, who the administration sanctions calls into serious question who in our "community" we value. The Political Science Department invited and co-sponsored a man who calls into question the humanity of many of the students on this campus. Many of these students spoke beforehand to the administration, asking for them to change the nature of the event or to disinvite Charles Murray. When their words fell on deaf ears, they organized a protest. Even students who got swept up in the momentum of the protest day-of are being punished. One student admitted to chanting "Black Lives Matter" for a few minutes during the protest. According to him, he was told he violated the "respect for persons" community guideline and was put on probation. This example begs the question: respect for which persons? Punishing a student for saying the words "Black Lives Matter" aloud, on the basis of a "respect for persons" community guideline, blatantly privileges some persons over others. Murray actively argues that the poor are less intelligent than the rich, that women are less intelligent than men and that people of color are less intelligent than white people. Yet the students who are being sanctioned by the administration are the ones who chanted "Black Lives Matter." This demonstrates a greater concern for some people on this campus than for others.

Furthermore, this is one of many examples people of color and other marginalized groups trying to work within the system, being ignored and then being punished for protesting. Punishing the protestors, therefore, plays into the same oppressive systems of power that Murray defends, that the College claims not to defend and that the protestors protested.

Given the points above, the third point of consideration is that disciplining the protestors with intimidating judicial practices will only deepen the divides and exacerbates the wounds that surfaced when Murray came to campus. The administration is equally as complicit as anyone else in the Charles Murray fiasco. Bringing Charles Murray to campus was an act of violence against marginalized students. Any path forward must be one of mutual accountability and healing, not one that reinforces existing power structures and absolves the administration and those who brought Murray to campus of any responsibility. To hire a private investigator to identify students from videos of the protest, to send intimidating emails demanding that students turn over all texts and documents related to the protests and to discipline those who stood up for their community members will only keep tensions high and exacerbate the deep divides in our community. This is not to say that we believe everyone involved should be punished; we think no one should. In order to heal, we need to move forward such that one body of people does not exercise its power to punish another. If we want mutual understanding, we need to come together without sanctions or discipline, but with open ears and minds.

We acknowledge that there is a wide variety of opinions of whether or not Murray should have been invited, how the protestors should or shouldn't have protested and who is at fault for the whole event. So if we disagree, and if there are legitimate arguments on all sides, then why is it fair for the administration to privately dole out sanctions as if they bear no responsibility? If we are truly the close-knit community we used to claim to be, then it doesn't make sense for the administration to discipline without conversation or to act without listening. Any response to the Murray event needs to be mutual, empathic and have healing — not discipline — at its heart.

Free Speech vs. Civil Disobedience

NOTES FROM THE DESK

***Opinions Editor Thomas Leaycraft '20** writes about punishment in the wake of the Charles Murray protests.*

March 2, the day of the Charles Murray talk, was never going to be easy for Middlebury. Free speech and civil disobedience, two of our nation's most challenging and sacred traditions, seemed to collide. In this war of virtues, everybody lost; the mob silenced Charles Murray, the media dragged Middlebury's name through the mud for weeks and the protesters now face punishment.

Civil disobedience is a tremendously respectable endeavor. Standing up for one's principles in the face of certain punishment, as many in our community did to protest the ideas of Dr. Murray's book "The Bell Curve", even after an administrator read aloud the College's code of conduct in the Wilson auditorium, reveals noble conviction. However, now many are demanding that the administration excuse these violations of college policy, and in essence, take a stance in this battle of ideals by deciding whether Murray's beliefs preclude him from the right to speak freely — they should not.

Much can and has been written about the Murray incident. Even in its entirety, that week's *Campus* could not contain the full range of perspectives on whether bringing controversial speakers like Murray to campus constitutes "platforming" or provides an understanding of deplorable ideas and institutions, which could be a valuable insight in the fight for change and social justice. While many find Dr. Murray's beliefs contribute to systems of oppression and racism, Middlebury must uphold the right to free speech.

Of course, the liberal arts philosophy, Middlebury's guiding principle, deems the sharing of widely varying ideas as indispensable to developing an understanding of the world. But furthermore, free speech is a fragile privilege and requires protection, whereas civil disobedience, by definition, does not. Upholding this privilege and measure of equality — the right to speak without censorship — is essential. A precedent that speech can be restricted is a dangerous infringement on all of our rights.

Our college made a statement on March 2 and, while I disapprove of the means by which we silenced Dr. Murray, I take some pride in belonging to a community which so passionately defends women and people of color. However, the time has come to accept the consequences of our actions. The College's punishment of protesters serves as a defense of all of our rights to speak freely. Bernie Sanders recently said of Ann Coulter's controversial visit to UC Berkley, "what are you afraid of — her ideas? Ask her the hard questions. Confront her intellectually." Our freedom to denounce Murray and institutionalized injustices and Murray's freedom of speech derive from a common, sacred privilege.

This has been a bad year for speech. The school year began with conversations surrounding the need for civility in discourse, and is ending with debates over whether or not people who say reprehensible things, or even hold deplorable beliefs, have the right to speak at all. We silenced Dr. Murray, though he came to discuss his latest book "Coming Apart", which focuses largely on the growing rift between the values of upper and working class whites — essentially the Trump coalition — without any mention of racial supremacy or eugenics. We set a dangerous precedent: we silenced not because of what he planned to say, but because of what he believes.

THE RISK OF REVERSING AFTER THE FACT

NOTES FROM THE DESK

***Local EditorAlessandria Schumacher '17** writes about revising college protest policy.*

In the weeks since the Charles Murray event, many of our peers have been called in "to talk" with administrators about their actions. Many have left those talks with punishments. Others of us, myself included, are wondering if we'll get the email or if our faces were not caught on camera. As uncertainty wears on, the idea of revising the handbook or waiving disciplinary action seems appealing, especially given that punishing students could do more harm than good for individuals and for our campus community as a whole. However, I see potential long-term danger in major steps to revise the handbook in hindsight or in efforts to waive the judicial process in this case.

Don't get me wrong, I think the College's process for administering disciplinary action is poor, the judicial process needs help (see our Editorial) and the handbook, especially regarding protest, needs revisiting.

My ideological qualms about major after-the-fact revisions begin with the idea that what is applied in one situation must also be okay in another.

Let's say there is a theoretical case under consideration by the college judicial process regarding stalking. Full disclosure, I know little about the particulars of the judicial process or stalking policy, so I am keeping this general to make a conceptual point.

Jack really likes Jen, but Jen is not into Jack at all and she keeps telling him that. However, he will not stop texting her, going out of his way to "run into" her and getting people to invite him to places where she will be. Jen is more than annoyed, she is creeped out. Jack has never physically harmed her, but this is wearing on her psychologically. How far might he take this?

Jen goes to the judicial board to "press charges" for violations of handbook rule ABC. According to the handbook, Jack is violating theoretical rule ABC. Judicial board determines disciplinary action X fits the offense.

However, they decide, "our rules are too harsh, let's revise it and give Jack Y (milder) disciplinary action instead."

Scenario 1: Perhaps punishment X really was too harsh, so after-the-fact revision makes sense. Perhaps what is happening now in the Charles Murray aftermath is too harsh, as well, and should be reconsidered. Let me add one more twist.

Scenario 2: Jack is from a "Middlebury family." His parents went here and make a lot of money. They are a prime family to court for large donations in the near future. Maybe they (or their lawyers) have even contacted the administration as their son faces the judicial process (sound familiar?). Now the seemingly benign move of after-the-fact revisions to a policy deemed "too harsh" seem more like the administration bending to outside pressure, caring more about reputation than students, and being unbearably opaque — all actions many of us believe the College does all too often.

I am fully aware that "morality" falls on opposite sides in these examples: Jack is the "bad guy," whereas with those facing discipline for the Murray event were fighting for justice. I do not intend to equate their actions, but rather to highlight the same process that must handle both situations.

I worry about going down the proverbial slippery slope. If we make major after-the-fact revisions now, is it okay to do so the next time, when perhaps we do not agree with the ideological intent of those who violated college policy, like in the example about Jack and Jen? If the judicial process is side-stepped this time, would the administration choose to sidestep it in a future incident where there may be external factors — like money and reputation — that would favor not taking disciplinary action against someone — like Jack — who really deserves it?

At what point could that lead to undermining the judicial process? While far from perfect, I think having a handbook and internal judicial process is better than having discipline without possibility for a hearing or only the option to press charges be in real courts.

While many of us, myself included, hope the disciplinary actions are light, let us consider the ideological and long-term implications of asking the College to majorly revise the handbook now for something that happened in the past or to not take disciplinary action. Remember, we would not want that to happen in the case of Jack and Jen; maybe I'm a cynical senior, but I don't trust the administration to make exception for student pressure, but not for external or financial pressure.

To the administration, I understand that you have to uphold the handbook and judicial process and I support that. Please consider the circumstances of individual students subject to discipline and the fact that some of these very students receiving disciplinary action were actually willing to work with you before.

Ultimately, the purpose of breaking an unjust law or a bad policy is to change it, so let's do that. To the administration, please, with the input of students and faculty, carefully examine and reconsider the handbook, especially aspects that have come to light around student protest and administering disciplinary action. And don't forget, any college process is done better if it's done with greater transparency.

OPEN DEBATE, FREE SPEECH AND RESPECT ON CAMPUS

READER OP-ED

***Bert Johnson,** Chair of the Political Science Department, follows up on his apology published in last week's edition.*

What did I just do?

Last week in the Middlebury Campus newspaper I published an apology for the "closed decisionmaking process" by which I offered a departmental co-sponsorship to the Charles Murray event earlier this year.

I've since been called lots of names online, mostly centering on my alleged cowardice, spinelessness, gutlessness, and my similarity to a show trial victim in a totalitarian regime. One Twitter user reminded me of the John Wayne quote, "Never apologize – it's a sign of weakness." Have I "capitulated" to the "mob"?

I don't think so. Before I go on, let me assure readers that I am speaking only for myself – not for my department or for the college. Despite allegations to the contrary, there is not a "party line" here, and faculty, staff and students have points of view that span the spectrum.

First, I agree with what some of my faculty colleagues have said at faculty meetings: free speech is a foundational value in the academy, second only to safety and security. I was an early signatory of the Statement of Principles on Free Inquiry on Campus that my faculty colleagues Keegan Callanan and Jay Parini wrote and posted online. I am not withdrawing my signature from that petition.

I offered the departmental co-sponsorship (not endorsement) of Charles Murray's visit and defended it under intense pressure in the days leading up to the event. Internally divided, the department did not revoke the co-sponsorship.

Further, I abhor the disruptive violence that took place on March 2. No academic department chair thinks his or her job will ever entail staying up all night trying to gather information on the extent of a colleague's injuries.

This could have gone better. Many poor decisions were made. The instigators of the disruptions and violence, of course, bear the responsibility for their actions, which are antithetical to the principle of free speech and inquiry.

But I believe it is incumbent on us all to think about what we might have done differently to contribute to a better outcome, and what can be done generally on campuses in such situations. My research on campaign finance has convinced me that more is better than less when it comes to speech. There is little evidence that high-spending candidates "drown out" the message of others, for example. Instead, more spending by more candidates allows the public to make better judgments with more information.

Therefore, a better process for such talks might be to be to have more advance notice, discussion and consideration of various points of view. As it was, the college had little more than a week to prepare.

Because of my lack of early consultation with others, I abruptly placed my departmental colleagues into the middle of a controversy that they did not expect or ask for. Under great pressure, they accepted this challenge – but in a very compressed period.

This short notice also gave the community at large little time to react. If they had received more warning, groups could have invited other speakers, held more teach-ins or taken other steps to join the debate. Professors could also have held more discussions in their classrooms on Murray's work and on his critics.

To be clear – I am not calling for new rules or restrictions on speakers or on speech. We should not be requiring a specific amount of advanced notice for controversial speakers.

But advanced notice and greater discussion surrounding speakers is polite. It shows respect for the community and for others who may want to contribute and respond. This enhances speech and dialogue rather than restricting it.

As I have heard time and again since the event, there are many on this campus who feel disrespected and ignored, particularly people of color. It is not a "capitulation" to recognize this fact and to try to address it. It can be done consistent with the principles of free speech.

To be sure, some conservative students have felt isolated on campus also, indicating the need for conservative speakers and for openness to discussion of conservative ideas.

My apology was narrowly focused on my own actions that contributed to this feeling of disrespect and lack of robust discussion. I meant what I said: I focused on the closed process as the problem, rather than on a specific decision.

My hope is that my message will open the door to reflection on all sides about how best to advance robust dialogue. More is better than less when it comes to speech on campus.

A LETTER FROM A PROFESSOR ON LEAVE

READER OP-ED

***Jon Isham,** Professor of Economics, writes about free speech at Middlebury.*

In "A Letter to the Well-Intentioned Liberal Professor" (April 12), Travis Sanderson states that Middlebury faculty whose "support of 'free speech' ... does not include protection of shut-downs and other methods of expression" are "on the wrong side of history." Comparing us to the white moderate whom Dr. King chastised in "Letter from Birmingham Jail," Sanderson concludes his letter with: "You are guilty."

It's a well-written letter, and Sanderson may be right. If shutdowns of selected speakers become the norm at Middlebury and other college campuses, the 114 faculty who signed the "Free Inquiry on Campus" statement will have been on the wrong side of history. And even if this is not the case — even if such shutdowns remain infrequent — Sanderson, along with many student, staff and faculty allies, may still say that we are guilty. Guilty, as he writes, of not "focusing on the actual concerns of marginalized students" and of doing "nothing to acknowledge the actual lived experiences that marginalized students articulated to argue for their free speech."

Again, Sanderson may be right. It's possible that we 114 Middlebury faculty (and faculty who signed a similar petition championed by Robert P. George and Cornel West) are not as focused as we should be on marginalized students. What's in the hearts of professors Alvarez, Anzali, Gebarowski-Shafe, Kafumbe, Morsman and Yuen, just to list a few, who signed the statement? Are their actions on behalf of marginalized students enough?

More pointedly, can their actions ever be enough if they do not, as Sanderson insists they should, support the shutdown of some speakers? Is that the right criterion to judge the entirety of their commitment to social justice and marginalized students?

No one can say for sure. It's possible that this particular stance — approving or disapproving of shutting down some speakers — is a perfect bellwether of such a commitment. But I hope that most members of our community will not come to this conclusion. For aren't there many ways for us faculty to support students whom we admire with all of our hearts, even as we reserve the right to disagree with them on some contested issues? And can't students challenge opinions of their faculty with vigor and insight, even as they honor their faculty's lifelong (if imperfect) commitment to doing the right thing?

All told, let us hope that members of our community embrace the full spirit of Dr. King's hallowed letter. For as angry as he was at his fellow clergymen in the spring of 1963, nowhere does he proclaim that they are "on the wrong side of history" or "guilty" of anything. Rather, he ends his letter with a call for faith and love, a sentiment that — following Sanderson's effective lead — I modify here to address these trying times at Middlebury:

"I hope this letter finds you strong in the faith. I also hope that circumstances will soon make it possible for us to meet each other, not as a pro-free-speech or anti-free-speech person but as a fellow community member and an empathetic sister or brother. Let us all hope that the dark clouds of racial prejudice will soon pass away and the deep fog of misunderstanding will be lifted from our anger drenched community, and in some not too distant tomorrow the radiant stars of love and sisterhood and brotherhood will shine over our great college with all their scintillating beauty."

WE NEED TO COMPLICATE DIALOGUE ABOUT RACE AND CLASS

NOTES FROM THE DESK

***Edward O'Brien '17** writes the mechanisms of racial and economic oppression.*

As I discussed in last week's column, racial oppression and economic oppression are intimately linked. This week, I want to look a little more closely at the mechanisms of racial and economic oppression to understand their overlap and their divergences. Can white people be oppressed, and if so, how? In what ways is it different to be poor and Black than it is to be wealthy and Black?

To explore these questions, it is important to analyze specific mechanisms of racism and classism. Too often, these conversations get stalemated because the same buzzwords are thrown around without much substantiation. So let's dive into it.

I will start with racialized economic oppression. A long-time driver of wealth inequality is the racial wealth gap. White families have had centuries to accrue wealth whereas Black families in this country were contending with legal segregation until just a few decades ago. Black workers have not been paid the same rates and not allowed the same kinds of jobs as white workers, barring them from economic prosperity. In fact, white inheritance is a key driver in the perpetuation of unequal wealth distribution. This, of course, begs the question: well, what about now? That was the past. Don't Black people today have just as much opportunity as white people? Well, no.

Perhaps the one of the strongest examples of racialized economic oppression is our public education system. Put simply, our public schools are funded in part with property taxes. Wealthy towns can raise taxes to fund their own schools (and make themselves exclusive to all but the wealthy) whereas poorer school districts face budget cuts and are largely at the mercy of fluctuating (and seemingly ever-shrinking) federal funding. Thus, to put it simply, rich students receive rich educations and poor students receive poor (read: poorly-funded) educations. This may seem at first glance to be a purely class-based issue. The history, however, is more complicated. Certainly, lack of access to education based on wealth is a form of classism shared by historically white, poor neighborhoods. For people of color who moved to northern cities, however, it is also racial. Take Roxbury, a district of Boston, for example. Historically, Roxbury was a white, Jewish neighborhood. When Black people started moving to Boston from the south, however, there was massive white flight. Today, only 8.1% of its population is white, and it is the poorest district of Boston. When white people fled, housing prices dropped because those with money saw it as an undesirable place to live — because of its new racial diversity. It is fair to say then that the very presence of people of color deflated housing prices, which in turn denied people living there a quality (or at least well-funded) education. Thus, Roxbury represents racialized economic oppression — a place where the experience of economic oppression was a direct result of racism.

But what about when a Black person gains financial resources? Then, arguably, they can afford to live in nicer neighborhoods or to send their kids to private school, thus ensuring an easier path to colleges and a promise for further financial return. In this way, a wealthier Black person might escape one form of oppression. Though this might, too, come at a cost for the family, who would likely be moving to a much whiter area. The example of wealthy people of color gives us an opportunity to think about race and class both alongside one another and separately. Wealthy people of color are not subject to this kind of economic struggle, but they still face racial oppression. People have conducted experiments that repeatedly prove this to be the case. One experiment dressed a Black man up in a suit and dressed a white man to look homeless. They found that, when entering hotels and other businesses, the Black man was several times more likely to be stopped and searched by security than the white man. This is one of many studies that substantiate claims of racial profiling that can lead to higher rates of police brutality and other instances of discrimination. Therefore, while wealthy people of color escape economic oppression, they still endure racial oppression.

In the same way, white people do not experience racial oppression, but can experience class oppression. It is different to be white and to have access to high-quality educations, to have inherited wealth, and to live within a system that sees you as racially neutral than it is to be white and uneducated, with little social mobility, and poorly-funded schools that make higher incomes unattainable. It is a different experience to be a computer programmer in Silicon Valley than it is to live in a trailer park in Middle America. In fact, many poor white people experience the same economic oppressions as do poor Black people — the difference being that white people do not experience it because of their race. Instead, white people face economic oppression because of a system that perpetuates existing wealth distributions — providing the best access to education, health care, and social mobility to those who are already wealthy.

Economic and racial oppression interact, and the evidence suggests that in tandem, they are particularly significant. The median white family in the U.S. has a wealth of $111,000 and a household income of $56,000. The median Black family has a wealth of only $7,000 and a household income of $35,000. Almost 14 percent of white households make over $100,000 per year whereas only 8 percent of make over $100,000 per year. In contrast, 8 percent of white households make under $15,000 per year whereas 22.4 percent of Black households do. Oppression is not theoretical — it is real, demonstrable, felt and lived experiences that are, all the while, interconnected and complex.

We must complicate our understanding of class, because it cannot be disentangled from race, sexuality, or gender. It informs and is informed by these power structures. When discussing oppression, we must address specific mechanisms or we will talk past each other. We must move forward with nuanced and complicated understandings of class and race, and their relationships to gender, sexuality, and ability in order to combat oppression holistically and compassionately.

If you want to engage more with a comprehensive understanding of class, go to go/middmovingmoney or send an email to middmovingmoney@gmail.com.

Global Health Screens Poverty Inc.

By James Finn
Contributing Writer

The Global Health department held a screening of Poverty, Inc., a 2014 documentary about the state of global aid and charity, at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 18, in Dana Auditorium. A panel of political science, education, food studies and religion professors spoke and answered questions after the film ended.

Written, directed and produced by Michael Matheson Miller, Poverty, Inc. criticizes the prominent "aid"-based response to poverty that wealthy countries, particularly the United States, push on poor regions around the world. Focusing on relief efforts in Haiti, Peru and parts of Africa, the film showcases many of the cultural and economic challenges communities face when NGOs and relief organizations begin to flood their economies with outside funds and resources.

Coordinator of Global Health Programs and Professor of the Practice of Global Health Pam Berenbaum suggested the film and organized the screening.

She said that one of the reasons she chose the film was that it focuses on the role that U.S. economic interests play in the ways aid is provided to countries in need.

"I like the film because it reveals aspects of aid and development that are not readily apparent," she said. "One theme that I wanted to showcase is that the United States' aid to other countries is largely connected to our own strategic and economic interests. This was true decades ago as well, yet many people cling to the comforting idea that our aid to other countries is purely selfless and benevolent."

The film first focused on aid efforts in Haiti, where American rice companies flooded the country with cheap rice after the devastating 2010 earthquake, as an example of the trend that U.S. foreign aid efforts tend to perpetuate. The film uses interviews with activists and workers to argue that while provisions of rice may have been helpful in the immediate wake of the earthquake when food was scarce, the continued shipments eventually ruined the portion of the Haitian economy devoted to rice production. Meanwhile, U.S. rice sellers profited.

The film also focused on Tom's Shoes' "One for One" program, when the company promised to provide a free pair of shoes to a child in need for every pair sold in the U.S., among other examples of aid initiatives that have hurt local economies for someone else's benefit. Through these same interviews, the filmmakers argue that people living in poverty possess the desire and ability to pull themselves out of their circumstances, and that aid efforts should provide these people with stepping stones with which to do this, rather than just handing them food or supplies they lack in the moment.

> ***"I like the film because it reveals aspects of aid and development that are not readily apparent."***
>
> **PAM BERENBAUM**
> **COORDINATOR OF GLOBAL HEAH PROGRAMS**

Berenbaum said she hopes that the film helps dispel stereotypes about the people who live in the countries that receive U.S. aid. "Many of the voices in the film were from people in countries that receive our aid, and I hope viewers would agree that the film helps to combat stereotypes about people in these countries," Berenbaum said. "We have this cherished belief that aid is benevolent, but that belief rests on an assumption that our aid is needed by people who are otherwise desperate or helpless without it."

Both Berenbaum and Food Studies Professor Molly Anderson, another member of the panel, had criticisms about aspects of the film's argument. Anderson felt that the film wasn't effective in distinguishing between emergency aid meant to help in the wake of a specific disaster and longer-term aid.

"The film showed the failure of charity, but it didn't distinguish between types of interventions, such as humanitarian crisis interventions [immediate responses to disasters such as the Haiti earthquake] versus dumping," Anderson said. "By not doing that, it perpetuated a misconception that foreign aid ... is ineffectual."

Berenbaum hopes that, despite the film's sometimes negative outlook, viewers can recognize that the desire to provide aid almost always comes with good intention.

"I hope that viewers heard the message in the film that people who work for aid agencies or NGOs, by and large, are people who really do want their efforts to improve human welfare – even critics of aid acknowledge this in the film," she said. "I think it's important to recognize the human element and avoid demonizing people in the industry, even if you disagree with its end results. Most criticism has the benefit of 20/20 hindsight."

Berenbaum and Anderson hope that the film's themes feed into wider discussions about aid and how to partake in it. "I'd like to see a cohesive concentration in development and ample opportunities for students to explore and reflect on how to intervene in communities in useful rather than high-handed or blind ways," Anderson said. "This could be done through experiential education that has preparatory and debriefing opportunities before and after the experiential component."

Berenbaum expressed similar sentiments.

"I would like to see us entertain the question of what we, as citizens, should do," she said. "Aid is an enormous juggernaut, and it is difficult to understand what our individual roles in it can or should be... How can we become part of the solution, rather than part of the problem, and how will we know the difference?"

Service Cluster Board Promotes Flex Fund For Volunteer Week

By Sarah Asch
Features Editor

The Service Cluster Board (SCB) is a collective made up of 17 student service organizations on campus. The board includes Kristina Frye '17 and Jin Son '18, the two student coordinators, and advisor Ashley Laux from the Center for Community Engagement. The SCB is currently celebrating Volunteer Week, and encourages students to go into the local community and participate in volunteer projects.

According to Frye, the SCB helps manage volunteer organizations on campus. She said, "The Service Cluster Board supports individual service organizations by helping them meet their missions and responsibly use their funds. The SCB oversees the budgets of the individual service organizations, hosts monthly leadership trainings and manages the Flex Fund."

The SCB sets aside the Flex Fund in their budget to promote service projects in the Middlebury community.

"Projects range from one-time events to programs that run over the course of a few weeks," Frye said. "In the past, Flex Fund money has been awarded to groups hosting community suppers, volunteering at Wild Roots Farm and organizing arts and crafts sessions at Addison Central Teens." The Student Government Association funds the SBC and the Flex Fund.

The Flex Fund helps support service projects orchestrated by students, including community suppers. Arturo Simental '20 participated a community supper with his Posse last January and said that he enjoyed the experience of working with the SBC and helping with the dinner.

"We prepared weeks before by finalizing our menu, grocery shopping and baking sweet desserts. On the day of the supper we set the tables before cooking and serving," Simental said.

Simental says he looks forward to participating in future community suppers. "I'd recommend the Flex Fund to anyone looking for community engagement possibilities. Students interested in volunteering shouldn't be turned away because of financial costs," he said.

Katie Merrick '17 put on a community super with the Cross Country Team. "I'm one of the co-captains of the Middlebury Cross Country Team, and every season we try to do a Community Supper," she said. "This year, I was the one to apply for the funding for this Community Supper through the Flex Fund. For anyone looking to put on a Community Supper—they have the process down pat, so I would highly encourage it."

Merrick believes it is valuable for students to engage with the wider community. "It's very important for Midd students to connect with town locals by volunteering," she said. "Moreover, engaging with community members showed us the tremendous diversity in Vermont experiences and a better understanding of Addison County."

Mikayla Hyman '20 has multiple experiences working with the Flex Fund. She applied to fund an arts and crafts class at the local Addison County teen center. She also used the fund to create MiddROC, a more permanent program to match refugee and immigrant students with mentors. Hyman agrees that volunteering is important.

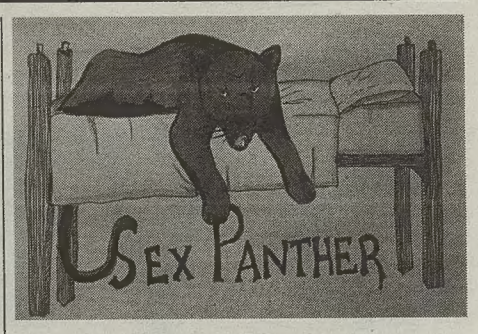
"Volunteer work is essential to a healthy, functioning society," Hyman said. "Volunteering facilitates empathetic connections between isolated groups and increases understanding between all individuals involved. Through these emotional and intellectual bonds, both individuals and communities can grow and develop."

Hyman found it very easy to apply for funding. "The process for applying for funding was incredibly accessible and very reasonable. The application was easy to find and I thought the directions were clear. All of the questions on the application were incredibly pertinent, and some even helped me to develop a more comprehensive program," she said. "I would definitely recommend that others apply for funding through the Flex Fund. It's a great resource on campus that allows individuals to make a meaningful impact on the community through direct service. Its flexible nature encourages creativity and allows students to engage in activities that they genuinely enjoy. Also the committee granted me funding incredibly quickly."

According to Frye, interested applicants need only fill out a short application and explain their project and budget. The Flex Fund Review Committee then provides feedback and determines whether the project falls under the guidelines of direct sevice. The commitee tries to respond to applicants within two weeks.

Frye also recommended students explore all available opportunities through the CCE. "If there is any advice we could give, it's that any student that is even remotely interested should stop by the Center for Community Engagement and discuss their ideas with us or any other CCE staff member. The CCE staff is incredibly welcoming and will likely be able to find a way to support your service project even if it doesn't fall within the guidelines of the Flex Fund."

Flex Fund applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, and any students, ad-hoc student groups or official student organizations interested in applying can reach out to the SBC at scboard@middlebury.edu with questions. Students are also welcome to apply at any time over the course of the academic year at go/flexfund.



What is Sex?

By Sex Panther

"Hey, how was YOUR night?"
"Goooood.... I hooked up with Jo."
Unintelligable squealing

Whenever a friend tells me they hooked up with someone, I always ask the same question: "Okay, but what happened?" Hooking up is a vague term that could mean anything from a dance floor make-out to sex.

In a casual Sex Panther survey distributed on Facebook by several *Campus* editors, many students shared how they define hooking up. Student definitions of hooking up ranged widely:

"Any kissing/makeout/sexual encounter that goes from a public place to a private place"

"For myself pretty much anything more than making out (as in if I'm telling a story and say hooking up). In general whatever people want it to be."

"tbh it's all a socially constructed category so like I've heard ppl call an intense DFMO a hookup but like it could also mean anonymous kinky dorm bed sex?????? I consider myself as hooking up if I'm gone long enough for my friends to notice"

Some respondents included dance floor make-outs in their definitions; others defined hooking up as any intimate moment alone with a partner. The six question marks in the last response listed above pretty much encapsulate anyone on campus's reaction to the phrase "hooking up" — and maybe that's totally fine. Student storytellers reveal their definition on a case-by-case basis and campus culture is none the worse for it.

When it comes to sex, however, it's important we have a deeper understanding of what sex exactly entails. The majority of respondents to the Sex Panther survey defined sex as penetrative, at least for themselves. Sex is "intercourse involving a penis and vagina typically, but also including with a penis and anus," one respondent wrote. "I know lesbians don't fit in here but this is how I would define it for myself." The broadest definition of sex might be my favorite: "people engaging in behavior they consider to be sex."

It's important to have a broad definition of sex because, as the first respondent noted, the definition of sex differs person-to-person. One respondent counts any physical intimacy with a partner as sex , while another felt it only "counted" if genitals were involved. The broad definition of sex — as best defined by the activity's participants — allows greater sexual fluidity and acceptance of sexual expression other than penetrative penis-in-vagina intercourse. Acceptance of less common sexual acts, such as anal sex, oral sex, the use of dildos and other sex toys, role playing, erotic massage, etc. can lead to more complete acceptance of the gay, lesbian, trans and bisexual (and straight!) people who perform these sex acts.

As we talked about last week, gender and sexuality are (fluid) spectrums. No specific sex act is wrong or "weird" — perhaps the most common pejorative college students use to describe the unknown. My suggestion? Since a lot of people's discomfort around "non-traditional" sexual activity is a fear of the unknown, the solution is to make the unknown *known*. Do your research; figure out what you might be into that you haven't tried before. Just trying to fantasize about something new could tell you if you might want to test out a new way to express your sexuality. Dr. Doe, a sexologist with her own YouTube channel, suggests communicating about your sexual desires and your definition of sex with partners via a Want/Will/Won't list that explains what sex acts you want to do, are willing to try or really don't want to do. (Also check out the Sexplanations channel on YouTube for more great sex advice!)

Don't forget to communicate, communicate, communicate — and get consent!

xoxo, Sex Panther

Symposium Spotlights

Though classes were cancelled last Friday, most students didn't spend the warm spring day sunning at Lake Dunmore. By 9 a.m., students, professors and townspeople packed inside the Great Hall, mingling in the maze of posters and discussing undergraduate research. April 21 marked this year's annual spring student symposium, or as President Laurie Patton described it in her opening remarks, a "party for thinking." Over 250 students presented their academic work in poster format or through oral presentations, and though most presenters were graduating seniors, a few underclassmen presented as well. Topics ranged from the possible link between school choice and juvenile crime rates (there is none, according to economics major Maddie Webb '17) to the relationship that Black and Latino women have with food served in Middlebury's dining halls (presented by sociology major Hana Gebremariam '17).

Below are some symposium snapshots. Can you spot yourself, your friends, maybe an interesting presentation you wish you knew more about? And in case you missed it, you can check out the entire presentation line-up at ***go/symposium****.*

all photos by Michael O'Hara

Solar Power Development in Vermont and Jordan

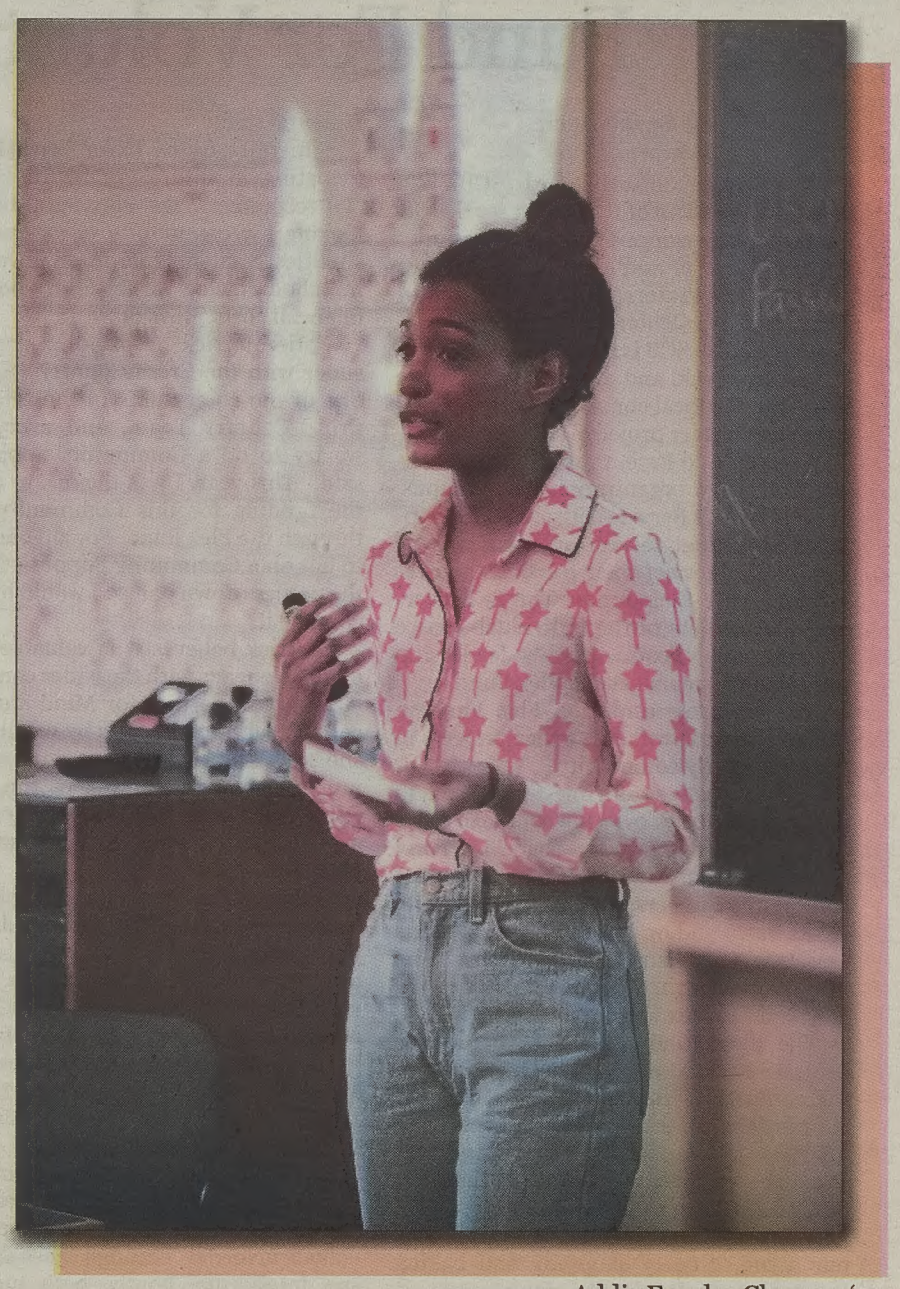
Karina Toy '17, SGA President
Sponsor: Professors Robert Greeley and Julia Berazneva

Jordan in the oil-rich Middle East and Vermont in eco-friendly New England could not, at least at first glance, be more different – in terms of climate, population size, language and geography, just to name a few. For this very reason, Karina Toy '17 decided to juxtapose the two to see what solar power development looks like (growth, policies and incentives) in two very different regions. She conducted interviews in Arabic while she was studying abroad in Jordan and spoke with local Vermonters this fall. "Solar power can be successful anywhere in the world, as long as government policies are supporting its development," she concluded. The entire project took her two years and is being published in the Tufts Undergraduate Journal of International Affairs. Her interest in renewable energy began in middle school: "To middle school me, solar power and green design was the closest way possible to live like the elves in Lord of the Rings. Or Eragon," she said.

Green-Dot Bystander Intervention: Does It Reduce College Sexual Violence Rates?

Matthieu St. Amour '17
Sponsor: Professor Phanindra Wunnava

Economics major Matt St. Amour '17 surveyed 750 Middlebury students to find out whether the Green Dot program – based on teaching the principles of bystander intervention – is actually effective in reducing sexual violence on campus. Green Dot is a national movement that Middlebury adopted just two years ago. His results are promising for the future of Green Dot. According to his analysis, students who attended the hour-long overview training (a shortened version of the full six-hour course for certification) were the least likely to tolerate violence and more likely to intervene. The one-hour time commitment was actually more effective than the six-hour training! His recommendation? Keep it mandatory for first-years to increase rates of bystander intervention, and hopefully decrease cases of sexual violence on campus.



Addis Fouche-Channer '17

Aliza Cohen '17

"Willie Horton Syndrome": A Case Study in the Transformation of United States Penal Culture

Aliza Cohen '17
Sponsor: Professor Rebecca Tiger

How did one popular mugshot taken in 1980s transform the American criminal system into what it looks like today: a mass incarceration of black bodies? Sociology major Aliza Cohen '17 analyzed over 481 articles in the *New York Times* that mentioned the infamous "Willie Horton" to find out. Following his mugshot's widespread circulation in the 1988 presidential election, she found the image had a lasting impact in shaping the public's harsh perception of criminals as "monsters" that can't be reformed and should be locked up, indefinitely. According to Cohen's research, the enduring link between Blackness and criminality can be attributed to Horton's mugshot as well. Even today, politicians like Republican senator Mitt Romney and then-Democrat senator Joe Biden continue to reference Willie Horton in the debate over reforming our prison system. That's a lot of lasting power in a single image.

Let's Play Cell: Developing a Computer Game to Teach Cell Organelles

Coumba Winfield '17
Sponsor: Professor Vickie Backus

Coumba Winfield '17's senior project epitomizes the versatility of a liberal arts education. Though she's an economics major and a fluent speaker of Mandarin Chinese, she's also become a talented computer programmer in her four years at Middlebury. Her specialty? 3D animation. Her project? An interactive computer game based not on the economy nor in Chinese, but on teaching cellular biology better. In her game, players "enter" a human body, and by clicking on different cells, they can navigate inside them and answer questions to learn more about their functions. Some students described it as "virtual reality" experience, that is not only more fun to look at, but also more realistic than a two-dimensional cell diagram in a textbook.

Matea Mills-Andruk '18.5

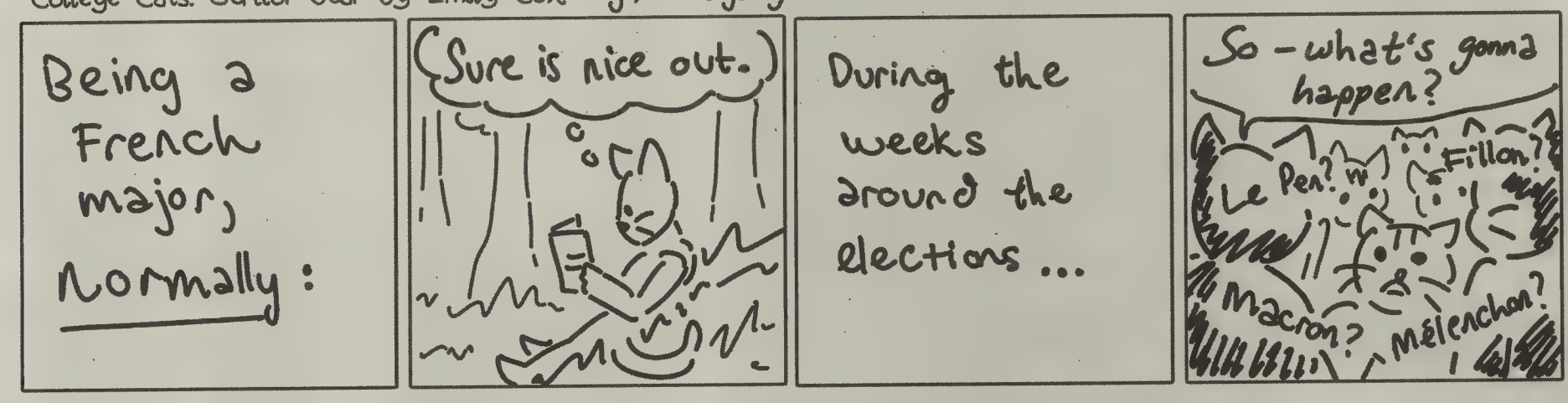
Noah Klammer '17

Written by Hye-Jin Kim
Designed by Alex Barber

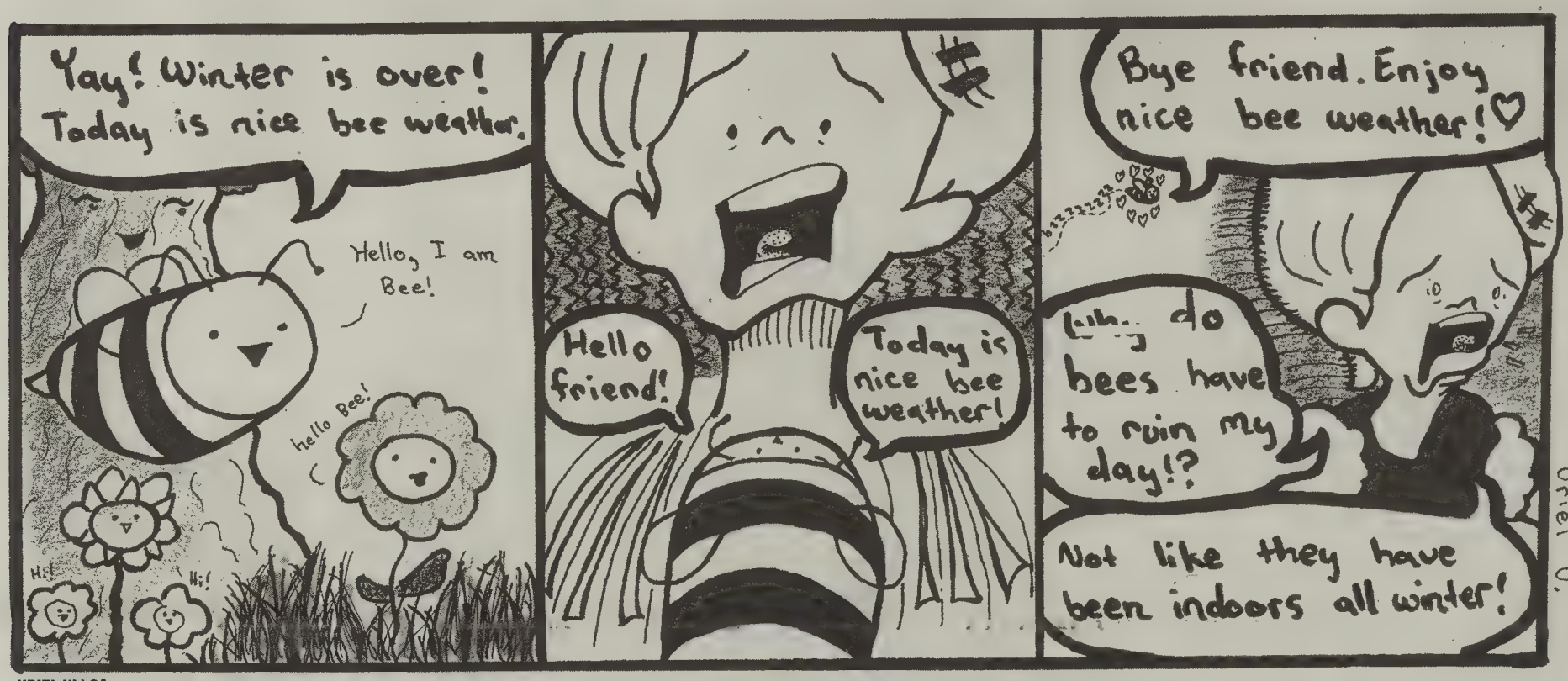
CARTOONS

The Middlebury Campus

College Cats: Senior Year by Emily Cox go/comicsbyemily



EMILY COX

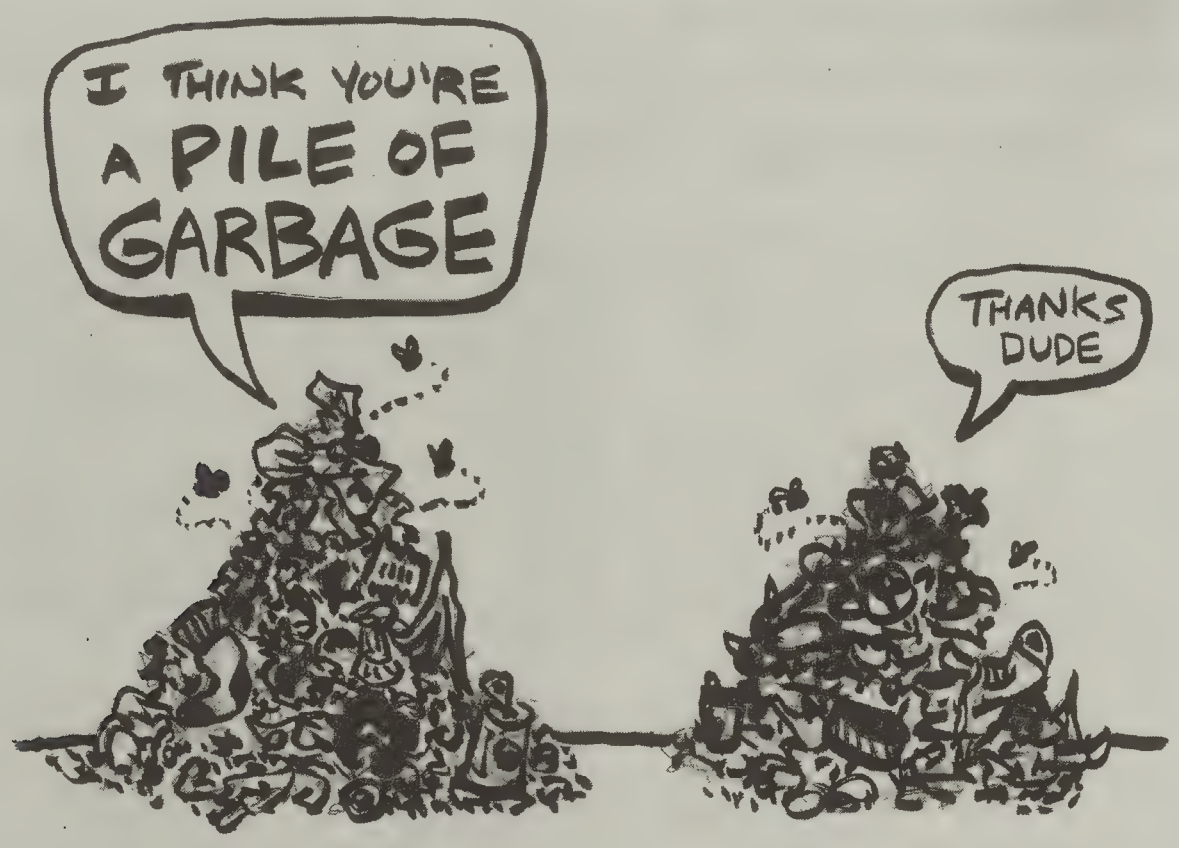

Yay! Winter is over! Today is nice bee weather.
Hello, I am Bee!
hello Bee!
Hi!
Hi!
Hello friend!
Today is nice bee weather!
Bye friend. Enjoy nice bee weather!
do bees have to ruin my day!?
Not like they have been indoors all winter!
Uriel U.

URIEL ULLOA

HOW TO BE A FEMINIST AT MIDDLEBURY!!!

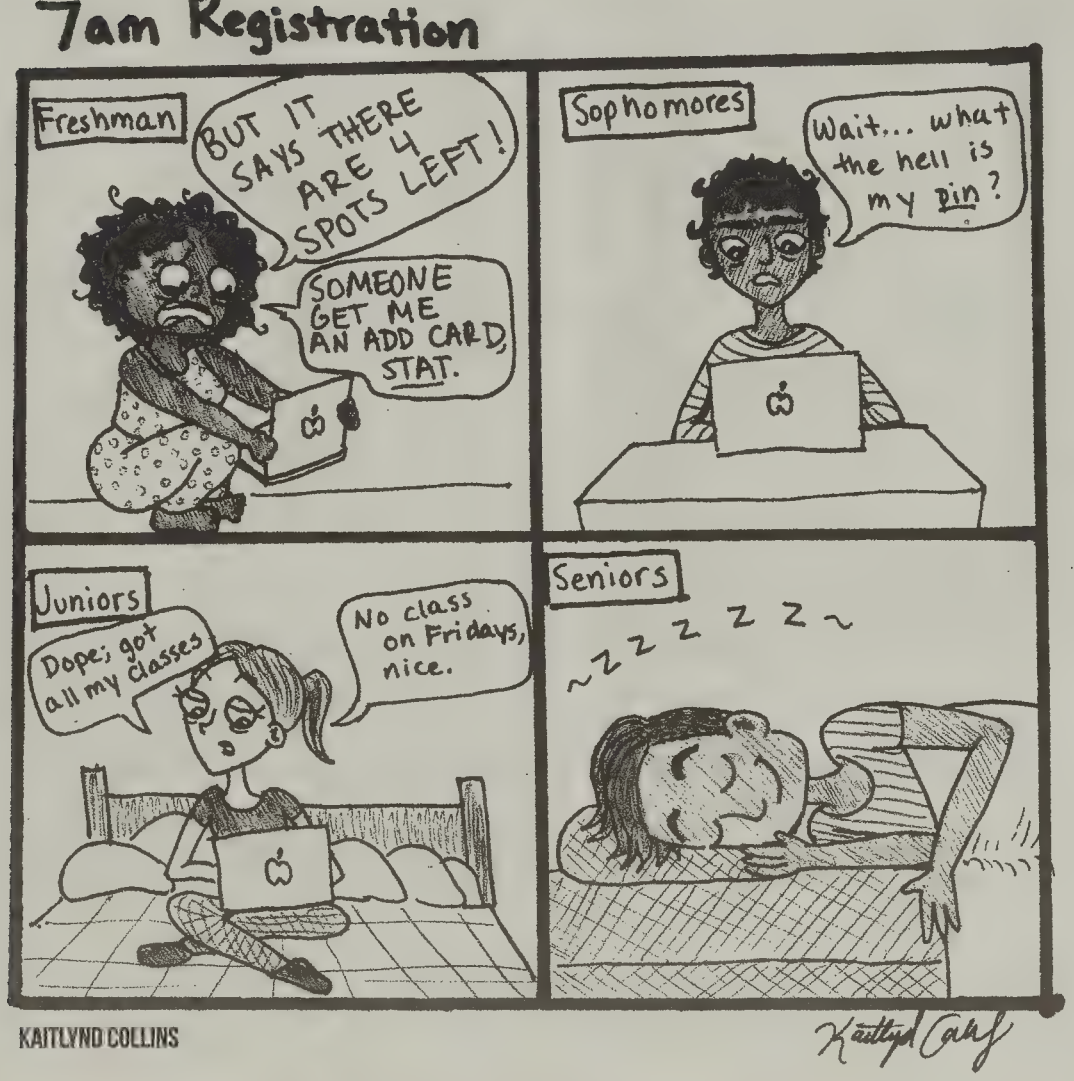
HIKE UNIDENTIFIED MOUNTAIN (SNAKE MOUNTAIN), REMOVE LULULEMON SPORTS BRAS AND SHOUT "FREE THE NIPPLE!!!" INTO THE SUNSET. POST CUTE PIC(S) ON INSTA. PATRIARCHY : OBLITERATED.

MILLIE VON PLATEN



NOLAN ELLSWORTH

WIN HOMER



KAITLYND COLLINS

'Freefall' Explores Family Love & Strife

By Sabine Poux
Arts & Sciences Editor

The Hepburn Zoo provides the perfect environment for a show about family. The audience's proximity to the action unfolding onstage allows for complete immersion in the scene, verging on a sense of an intrusion into secret business. Even in the back row of the tiny theater, one is brought incredibly close to the actors, which creates a sense of intimacy that cannot be achieved in a larger venue.

Each scene in "Freefall" additionally gives off a sense of extreme closeness between the performers and the audience, as the show deals with deeply personal matters. "Freefall," written by Charles Smith, follows all that unfolds when two estranged brothers reunite for the first time in over five years.

Their lives are entirely different from one another's — the first of the brothers to be introduced, policeman and husband Grant (Jabari Matthew '17), lives in the middle-class Chicago suburb of Beverly with his wife Alex (Rebecca Johnson '17). Grant is able to turn away from his early life on the streets, while his brother Monk (Oliver Wijayapala '17) is a homeless thief who has only recently been released from prison and struggles to resist provocation from dealer Spoon (Kahari Blue '19) to get back in the drug game.

Though the brothers' paths have diverged, they cannot stay out of each other's lives: Grant secretly and regularly checks up on Monk when he gets out of prison, until one day Monk shows up on Grant's doorstep. The two must deal with their differences, which are underlain by much resentment.

At one of the most gasp-worthy parts of the play, the audience finds out it was Grant who turned Monk in, and Monk blames Grant for the death of his two-year-old son who died soon after Monk was put behind bars.

Roxy Adviento '18 directed the production. Caleb Green '19 stage managed and Nicholas Leslie '18 did technical direction.

"After taking two directing courses in the fall, this is the first actual play I have directed," Adviento said. "I've mostly been an actor during my time in Middlebury and directing was something I just fell in love with in my junior year."

Matthew and Wijayapala produced "Freefall," and earned credit for their senior theater theses. They chose the show with the help of Adviento.

"'Freefall' was brought to me by Jabari [Matthew] and Oliver [Wijayapala]," she said. "I was definitely shocked and moved by the play and I was sold! I found myself gasping and laughing as I read it. I was also very excited to work with these two talented actors and with a cast and crew of POCs."

The stage was split in half for the production, representing the two very different routes the brothers had taken in their adult lives. One side depicted the well-furnished living room of Grant and Alex's home, while the other side featured a dilapidated, trash-strewn alleyway in Englewood. The polarization could not be more striking.

"For me I guess the biggest takeaway is that there's two worlds in a play, the alleyway and a living room, and Monk and Grant kind of represent those two places," Wijayapala said.

"Also, they represent the institutions they are part of; Grant is a police officer and Monk is a criminal, and they're part of the larger institutions of the criminal justice system and the brotherhood. But the biggest institution they both struggle with is family, and how it overlaps between those two different worlds," Wijayapala said. "And, granted, though they come from two different worlds, they're both alike, and the more they realize they don't need each other, the more they actually do need each other."

The way in which the actors were costumed also created contrast between the brothers. While throughout the show, Grant and Alex showed off Ralph Lauren-esque turtlenecks and sweater dresses, Monk sported a much different ensemble. At the end of the play, Grant even makes a point that they should burn Monk's jacket because it smells so bad. Iram Asghar '18, who put together the show's costumes, did not pull any punches — the variance in wealth was not only apparent, but painfully obvious and polarizing.

There is much tension because of the socioeconomic divide between the brothers, who struggle to make peace with both the love and contempt they feel for one another.

There is also unexpected tension between Grant and Alex, brought to light by astute and honest Monk. Monk believes Grant's life with Alex to be an escapist attempt to leave his old life behind, and in this "straw house" there is much unexplored conflict. Grant does not know Alex is pregnant, for example, though Monk notices right away, elucidating Grant's inability to listen to Alex. This conflict comes to a head when Monk exposes the pregnancy to his brother.

A moment of tension that absolutely broke my heart came when Grant reveals to Monk that he was posing as "Mr. Ricky" — an old neighbor who Monk regards with extreme reverence — and writing Monk letters in jail. Monk cherished the letters, saying that they inspired him and kept him alive while he was locked up. The audience could feel Monk's extreme anguish: Wijayapala's facial expressions and passionate display of emotions said it all.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Oliver Wijayapala '17 portrayed Monk for and produced "Freefall" along with Jabari Matthew '17 for their senior thesis.

However, there are also moments of love that satisfyingly mitigate some of the familial tensions. Monk, when defending Alex on the street, refers to her as his sister — a moment that made me gasp with surprise and delight — showing the undeniability of family ties, a theme which pervades the whole show.

Through this theme and others, the various characters navigate through what it means to be a family, even one as untraditional as Grant and Monk's.

"I think the biggest thing I want the audience to take away from this show is the commitment to family," Matthew said. "Obviously this is a specific type of family, but I think that at the end of the day the bond and the love and the commitment to trying to create a strong family bond is something that I would hope that everybody can in some way, shape or form, relate to. That commitment to love, I hope that's universal for everybody."

One scene in which I felt this universality was during a tender moment between Monk and Alex. Monk questions whether Alex feels at home with Grant, and asks that if everyone else on Earth besides Grant became a stranger, she would be okay with having him alone. I was fascinated by Monk's way of thinking about love, and this line has been ruminating with me ever since.

One of my favorite characters in the show was Spoon, who, according to a character breakdown from the play's website, "would be working for IBM if born of a different race or class."

"I think Spoon is very smart, and a lot of people might look at someone like him and look at the things he does and assume that he's not," Blue said, "but he's actually a human being with a full body and a full range of emotion, and I think that finding his wit was really important for me in bringing out his humanity."

Blue definitely succeeded at channeling this side of Spoon — throughout the show, Spoon was extremely smooth-talking and persuasive. My friend even noted that Blue's voice was "like butter," and the lines he said sounded like poetry. Blue was right in that I was not expecting him to be played the way that he was, and I was pleasantly surprised.

I also loved Johnson's portrayal of Alex and her unexpected role as savior, when she comes into the house after Monk pulls a gun on his brother to prove himself to Spoon and the other members of "the Brotherhood."

"I really felt connected to my character because I was the only woman in the play, and I feel like she was very strong throughout," Johnson said. "And then, in the end, I think her determination to pull people together and think about family and people's relationships to each other was what saved lives. It was wonderful to play such a strong female character in a play where she's the only female character."

The show was emotionally draining in the best way, and the resolutions at the end made me feel warm inside. (And, judging by the expressions of some of the audience members, I was not the only one who was touched.)

The power of the actors to communicate the bitter-sweet, complex family dynamics in "Freefall" was incredibly moving, and the small size of the cast and theater exposed each actor, showcasing his or her acting chops. All of which, by the way, were undeniably impressive.

"I loved working with these people," said Adviento. "They are all my friends and I've just learned so much from them. Since none of us are actual 'professionals,' there were definitely bumps along the way. I think the most important part was that everyone kept it real and pushed through."

"All the cast members were amazing and experienced actors," added Wijayapala. "We also had an amazing director."

In such a small cast and crew, that mutual respect is incredibly important and admirable.

MICHAEL BORESTEIN

Rebecca Johnson '17 and Jabari Matthew '17 portray wife and husband Alex and Grant in this production of "Freefall."

DON'T MISS THIS

Middlebury Bach Festival

The 2017 festival includes Bach's Art of Fugue played by the Brentano String Quartet; Handel's oratorio Esther featuring Middlebury alumni soloists, the Middlebury College Choir, and student and guest instrumentalists; and an afternoon concert of chamber music.

4/28-30, FRIDAY-SUNDAY, ROBISON HALL, MCA

Breathe

Gabriel Forestieri, along with Loren Kiyoshi Dempster and Adrian Jevicki, transform Middlebury's Natatorium with "Breathe," a multidisciplinary performance event. A contemporary water opera that combines song, movement, light, dance, water, music and text.

4/29-30, SATURDAY-SUNDAY, 8 P.M., NATATORIUM, PETERSON FAMILY ATHLETICS COMPLEX

Remembering the Material: Medardo Rosso's Bimbo Malato

Phoebe Mitchell '17 and Associate Professor of the History of Art and Architecture Eddie Vazquez discuss Medardo Rosso's use of wax as a sculptural material, and address the communicative implications of his artistic strategies of repetition and hybrid materiality.

4/21, FRIDAY, 8 P.M., 51 MAIN

Midd Masti's 'Baat-Cheet' a Success

By Bilal Khan
Senior Writer

Let me paint you a picture. The canvas is blank. The colors are pink, purple, yellow and black. The artist is in a particularly gay mood and has about an hour to paint butterflies, roses and all things good and happy.

It is the Midd Masti show, guys.

Last Saturday on April 22, Wilson Hall was caught up in a Bollywood song and dance bonanza as the hosts looked out to a packed audience and invited on the glittering stage the first performers of the night: Ayesha Ashgar '19, Hamza Kiyani'19 and their Bhangra dance crew.

Dressed in black harem pants, tank tops and donning yellow "dupattas," the dancers stepped onto the stage and flashed everyone the biggest smiles they could muster. They had hops, they had twirls and lots and lots of "thumkas." They even had a (bearded) grandmother who seemed to be scolding them, before she joined in the dance and gave us a few "thumkas" herself.

This year's show was titled "Baat-Cheet" (chit-chat) and a dialogue between the hosts preceded each performance. Each dialogue was based around the theme of identity and aspired to capture the spirit of the dance that followed. Many stories – most of which were happy, a few of which were sad – were shared by students who call both Vermont and the eclectic mix of colors that is the world of South Asia, home.

Over the last few years, Midd Masti has maintained a tradition of inviting guest performers for its annual showcase. This year saw INGOMA – Midd's only African a capella group – took the stage. They sang two spiritual songs from Kenya and South Africa: "Kuliko Jana" (Swahili) and "Ndikhokele" (Xhosa). They were followed by the University of Vermont's Bollywood dance group, JAZBA, who performed a fusion of pop, traditional Punjabi and Bollywood music. With a six-song medley and a substantial storyline, JAZBA's performance was really a mini Bollywood musical, complete with love at first sight, a (not too) devastating heartbreak and eventual (ecstatic) union.

MICHAEL O'HARA

Students dance and smile as they perform in Midd Masti's show in Wilson Hall.

MICHAEL O'HARA

Varsha Vijayakumar '20 performing classical Carnatic music during the show.

Varsha Vijayakumar '20 wowed everyone with a vocal performance of classical Carnatic music, which the New Jersey first-year has been practicing since she was five years old. Her hymn to Lord Shiva, the Transformer and Destroyer, was both tremendously skillful and incredibly emotional.

Akhila Khanna '17, who is bidding us all goodbye next month after four years of organizing the brilliant annual Midd Masti shows, choreographed on the magical rhythms of the iconic "Humma Song" for the senior piece. As she prepares to leave our College, she wants to leave her Midd Masti pals with a very special message.

"Keep spreading the energy joy and happiness that is so pure and inherent in your dance," she said. "Always keep the Proc basement doors open for everyone and anyone and I am certain you will change lives like you have changed mine. Thank you for keeping me going, reminding me of home when Middlebury was not. I will miss you from the bottom of my heart."

We will miss you too, Akhila. The "thumkas" won't be the same without you.

The show ended with the performers taking their bows and heading over to Crossroads for the after-party, with more desi songs and many more "thumkas" in store.

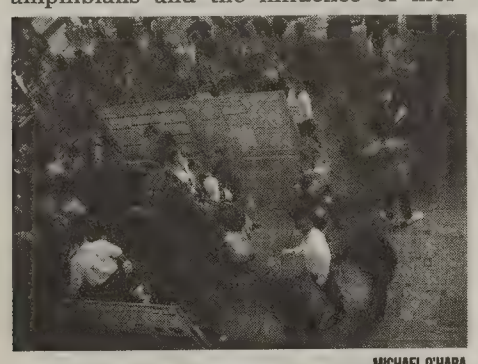
Science Showcases at the Symposium

By Sabina Haque
Staff Writer

A friend of mine told me in confidence on Friday, "I've never seen so many people in McCardell Bicentennial Hall. It's weird, seeing so many random people here."

Indeed, a larger than usual fraction of the Middlebury community was found inside the colossal slate building on Friday, April 21, munching on croissants and cookies and rushing between the third and fourth floors in fifteen-minute increments to attend their friends' presentations. At the College's 11th annual 2017 Spring Student Symposium, 286 students across many disciplines shared their academic and creative works in oral and poster presentations, both at the College and off campus. Many of the projects came from students pursuing a diverse array of STEM-related fields, from the genetic effects of caffeine consumption to the quantum hall effect.

At the first poster session, a particularly memorable project was that of Elizabeth Green '17, who worked with Professor of Environmental and Biosphere Studies Stephen Trombulak on "Intraspecific variation in morphology of larval amphibians and the influence of morphology on predator-prey interactions." Green's station was difficult to reach due to the constant crowd of people surrounding her and her poster, but eventually I managed to listen to her spiel.



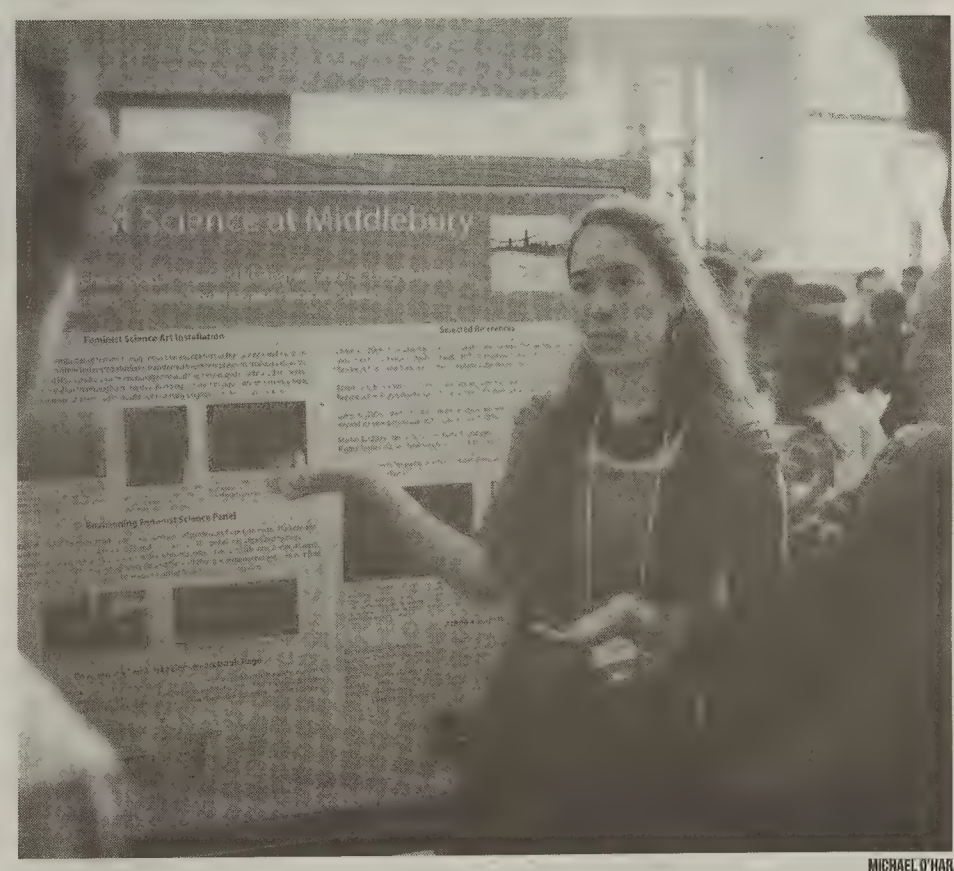
MICHAEL O'HARA

Students, faculty, staff and community members attend the Spring Symposium.

Basing her research on the observation that morphology impacts how individuals behave in ecological communities, Green focused on larval amphibian morphology and how it impacts the predator-prey relationship between the spotted salamander and gray tree frogs. Collecting samples from various ponds in Missouri, Green performed linear and geometric morphology analysis by carefully detailing the changes she observed in the morphology of her specimens. Following statistical analysis and plotting her geometric and linear data, she concluded that although neither linear nor geometric, shape followed a constant trend of variation between specimens of different ponds. However, the best indication of predator-prey outcome turned out to be the mean pond and larval density, or how densely populated a particular pond sample was. A compelling conclusion to round off a compelling presentation, Green's hard work came through in the skillful way she fielded questions from her devoted listeners.

Appealing to another area of scientific interest, Felix Wang '16.5 presented on his thesis research for the Physics Department, "On the Efficiency of Bio-inspired Dual-wing Generator." In his project, Wang explains how scientists and engineers have used models of the mechanics of bird flight to extract energy out of the flow of a bird's wing and convert it into electricity. In doing so, a German Robotics company created the dual-wing generator in 2014, which mimics the bird's wing movement for electricity production and wind energy extraction.

In his thesis, Wang sought to elucidate if the dual wing generator prototype was able to surpass the efficiency of current wind turbines at low wind speeds. Using a fluid dynamics software package, Wang developed a module that made refinements using a finite element method, where he simulated the dual wing generator's performance under various conditions. He found that the dual-wing generator utilized the suction effect to achieve a higher aerodynamic efficiency in certain situations and discussed other interesting observations while showing a colorful computational simulation during his presentation.



MICHAEL O'HARA

Students presented on a wide range of subjects, theses and research at the Student Spring Symposium.

The Symposium also highlighted several projects that investigated science from a social lens. Brooke Angell '18 presented on independent work she performed in Chile last semester, in which she asked elementary schoolchildren to draw a scientist and observed the emergence of existing stereotypes in their products. Converging on a topic of some political controversy, Ariana Mills '17 and Katie O'Neill '17.5 applied a comprehensive scientific understanding to the notion of empathy and justifying myriad reactions to sexual trauma.

MIDDMOUTH: FEATURING TYLER BELMONT

By Matthew Blake
Senior Columnist

This week's MiddMouth poet is Tyler Belmont '17. Tyler is from Colorado Springs and is majoring in International Politics and Economics. He enjoys playing bass, writing poems, and advancing the empathy that derives from enlightened cultural exchange, among other things that generally never come close to becoming a self-reliant citizen or eliminating insurmountable sums of student loans.

ROXANE VAIRON

Tyler Belmont '17 is this week's poet.

MB: How would you describe your creative process?

TB: The best creativity comes in bursts and struggles. I find that my better products are expressions between separation's anguish and the struggle to obtain hope and grace: separation from God or from love and loved ones; struggle for a more perfect understanding; hope for the world we live in. Struggles like these often manifest themselves in an attempt to understand the implications of identity, as well as the degree of individual and collective agency within the channels of history. I find a flavor of the day and let it ferment in a state or place in which I find myself or to which I desire to return. No poem is ever truly resolved. I'm always coming back for revisions, but I also keep the old versions in case I overrevise and need to back-track towards scruffiness.

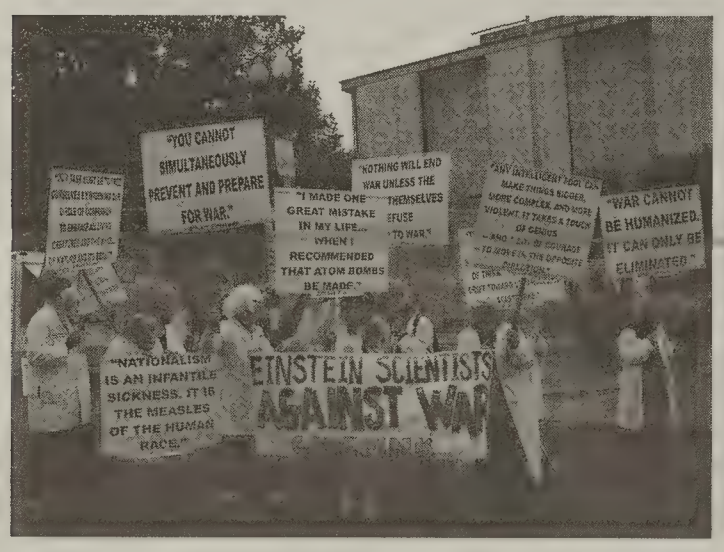
MB: How would you describe your relationship to poetry?

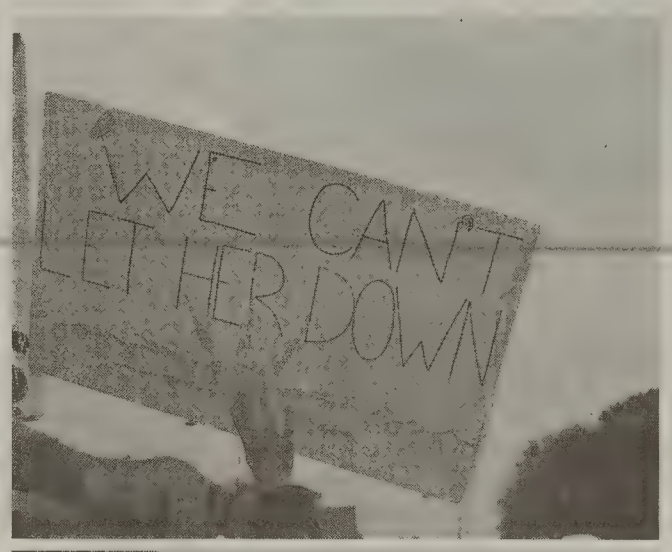
TB: Ever since my high school English teacher (a former Bread Loafer!) made me lead an hour-long discussion on Wallace Stevens and his "Emperor of Ice Cream," I've found poetry to be a capricious means of digestion. On the best days, it's like eating something deliciously alive. But in digesting what the world feeds, poetry also has a way of cementing the mind's rabbit holes. Unfortunately, I find that I often unduly cling to despair so that I might extract a more potent artistic experience, which becomes exhausting. I heard they make meds for that. In somebody else's words, art can be therapeutic, but it's no substitute for therapy. This is something I'm beginning to understand; there are weeks when I try and leave poetry alone.

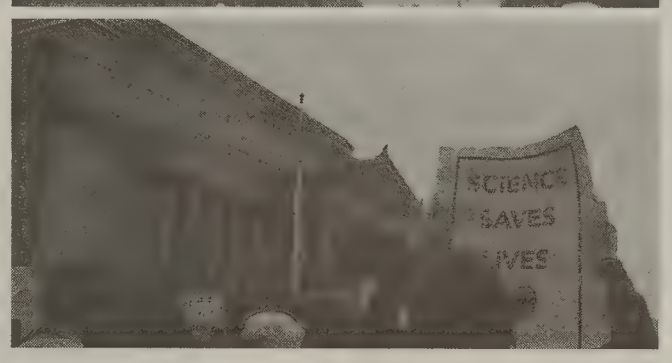
The Pursuit of Dignity
By Tyler Belmont

Salted wood strewn along the frosted shore yields
in flames the warmest of cold comforts, casts
the solitariness of glazed winter to the fringe.
If there is any single truth
that might be granted, let it now be this:
that it is incorrect to say that this is resignation.
Let it rather be the uplift
from an impervious fog, a steady hand
that proffers a tired camaraderie's comforts
in its palm; cold tablets to be twisted
down the length of the esophagus. And with it
comes the ultimate restoration of a pride,
the unadulterated agency
that once left the side, evading reach
within this aimless fog, and was today
in the tablets' fleeting sapors
rediscovered.

Midd Students March for Science in D.C.


"YOU CANNOT SIMULTANEOUSLY PREVENT AND PREPARE FOR WAR."
"I MADE ONE GREAT MISTAKE IN MY LIFE... WHEN I RECOMMENDED THAT ATOM BOMBS BE MADE."
"NOTHING WILL END WAR UNLESS THE THEMSELVES REFUSE TO WAR."
"WAR CANNOT BE HUMANIZED. IT CAN ONLY BE ELIMINATED."
"NATIONALISM IS AN INFANTILE SICKNESS. IT IS THE MEASLES OF THE HUMAN RACE."
EINSTEIN SCIENTISTS AGAINST WAR





By Hunter Graham
Contributing Photographer

On Earth Day (Apr. 22), scientists and lovers of science alike came together in Washington D.C. to celebrate science and its relevance in our everyday lives. Its mission, according to the March for Science website, was for people to "unite as a diverse, nonpartisan group to call for science that upholds the common good and for political leaders and policy makers to enact evidence based policies in the public interest."

THE REEL CRITIC

NAPOLEON

By John Gosselin
Senior Writer

I have never seen a film as big as director Abel Gance's "Napoleon" (1927).

In light of the recent French elections, this movie — with its nationalist themes, cinematic innovations and durable quality — appears especially relevant.

A major factor in its nationalist themes is the film's sheer scope: the reconstructed five-hour cut trembles beside the original 9-hour version; thousands of extras appear in hundreds of unique costumes in dozens of unique locations designed to evoke an unparalleled sense of grandeur. The film's scope matches its subject matter: it depicts Napoleon Bonaparte's charge of the biggest army in Europe through some of France's greatest battles. The reconstruction has a fully orchestrated score featuring the most famous pieces from the historic era. Even the characters' hats are too big for their heads. Compared to other epic dramas from this era like "Intolerance" (1916) and "Cabiria" (1914), "Napoleon" makes them look like Buster Keaton shorts.

Unlike with his previous efforts, which were set in the present day and tended to be critical of France, with "Napoleon" Gance creates a nationalist, historic epic to celebrate not only Napoleon, but his country as well. These motives become clear early in the film when Gance dramatizes the first singing of the French national anthem "La Marseillaise." As a crowd of hundreds begins to sing the song, images of an eagle and a man waiving the French flag are superimposed on the screen. This scene lasts for the duration of the song, meaning that the piano accompanist in some of the original screenings would have been able to play "La Marseillaise" during it.

Beyond this central scene and the nationalist themes, the film offers a wealth of interesting cinematic techniques. A triptych (three screen) finale pre-empted most wide-screen formats by nearly 30 years. It is difficult to feel the full effect of the three screens on my computer, or even on a television screen, but the effect it has in a large theater must be profound. Even still, the moment when the screen widens represents a supreme dramatic push into the end of the story.

Originally, Gance meant for it to be part of a series of six film which would encompass Napoleon's entire life. However, the sheer scale of this first film prevented the completion of the entire project, so the moment when the screen expands takes on extra importance because it is the biggest moment of the film.

Another interesting technique includes the use of extremely quick cuts, sometimes lasting less than a second, or only a few frames. Without the need to synchronize his images to a soundtrack, Gance was able to edit short shots together. The most prevalent example of this technique occurs in the opening scene, a snowball fight at the young Napoleon's boarding school. This scene foreshadows a later part of the film where Napoleon and the children against which he is having the snowball fight challenge him in a real military battle. To emphasize their opposition, the film cuts between Napoleon's face and his enemies faces at an extremely fast pace until his enemies are hit with snowballs. This technique shows up in other parts of the film at similarly narratively important or stressful times, and gives the film a greater sense of unity over its long run time.

"Napoleon" is an attempt to build French nationalism, an attempt to treat film in new ways, and an attempt to captivate its audience in its process. It succeeds on all fronts, becoming one of my favorite movies as it does. A DVD copy of this film is available in the library.

THE OFFICIAL PIZZA OF THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

GREEN PEPPERS

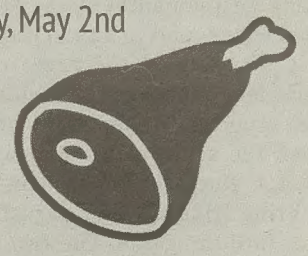
LOCAL | HANDCRAFTED | FRESHLY PREPARED | AT YOUR CONVENIENCE

[802] 388-3164

The Middlebury Fire Department invites you to the

63rd Annual
BAKED HAM SUPPER

Serving continuously from 5-8PM on Tuesday, May 2nd
Waybury Inn, East Middlebury, Vermont



Take-out available at the door only. Please do not call for takeout.

Breakout Season Continues on Diamond

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

"It was awesome to be able to take a 3-0 lead as a team and go out and battle for the last three innings to hold Wesleyan down," Morris said. "Throughout the entire game, I felt the playoff atmosphere, I felt the big stakes and I could not have been more stoked to have the chance to hold it down for the team."

With a two game lead heading into the final contest, Middlebury was eager for the sweep and a chance to secure a NESCAC playoff berth.

On Sunday, April 23, Colin Waters '19 started on the bump for the Panthers. He struggled in the first: after recording the first out, Waters misread a routine pop up allowing the batter to safely reach first and walked the next three to give Wesleyan a 1-0 lead. Waters, however, held the visitors for the next 5.1 innings, getting help along the way from Guild making a spectacular diving catch in right field.

"It felt great because I knew I was doing what I could to help the team — that dive in particular," Guild said. "It was special because plays like that represent the epitome of our season and our motto — 'why not?' Why not dive onto the gravel to catch a fly ball that will help us make the playoffs? We've all bought into Coach Leonard's philosophy and our team chemistry — it's been nice to help Middlebury Baseball get back on the map."

Using this momentum, Middlebury put up two runs in the top of the third after the Rizzo drew a walk, stole second and scored on single by Andrew Hennings '20, who was returning to competition after a shoulder injury sustained against Amherst on April 8. Hennings scored on a double by Lock giving the hosts a 2-1 lead.

Waters held the Cardinals scoreless in the fourth, while the Panthers put up three in the bottom of the stanza. Guild drew a walk and advanced when Gray Goolsby '20 also drew a walk; both runners moved up a base thanks to a passed ball and set the stage for Brooks Carroll '20 to push a bunt past the pitcher to safely reach first and score Guild. Hennings followed with a base clearing double to give the hosts a 5-1 lead.

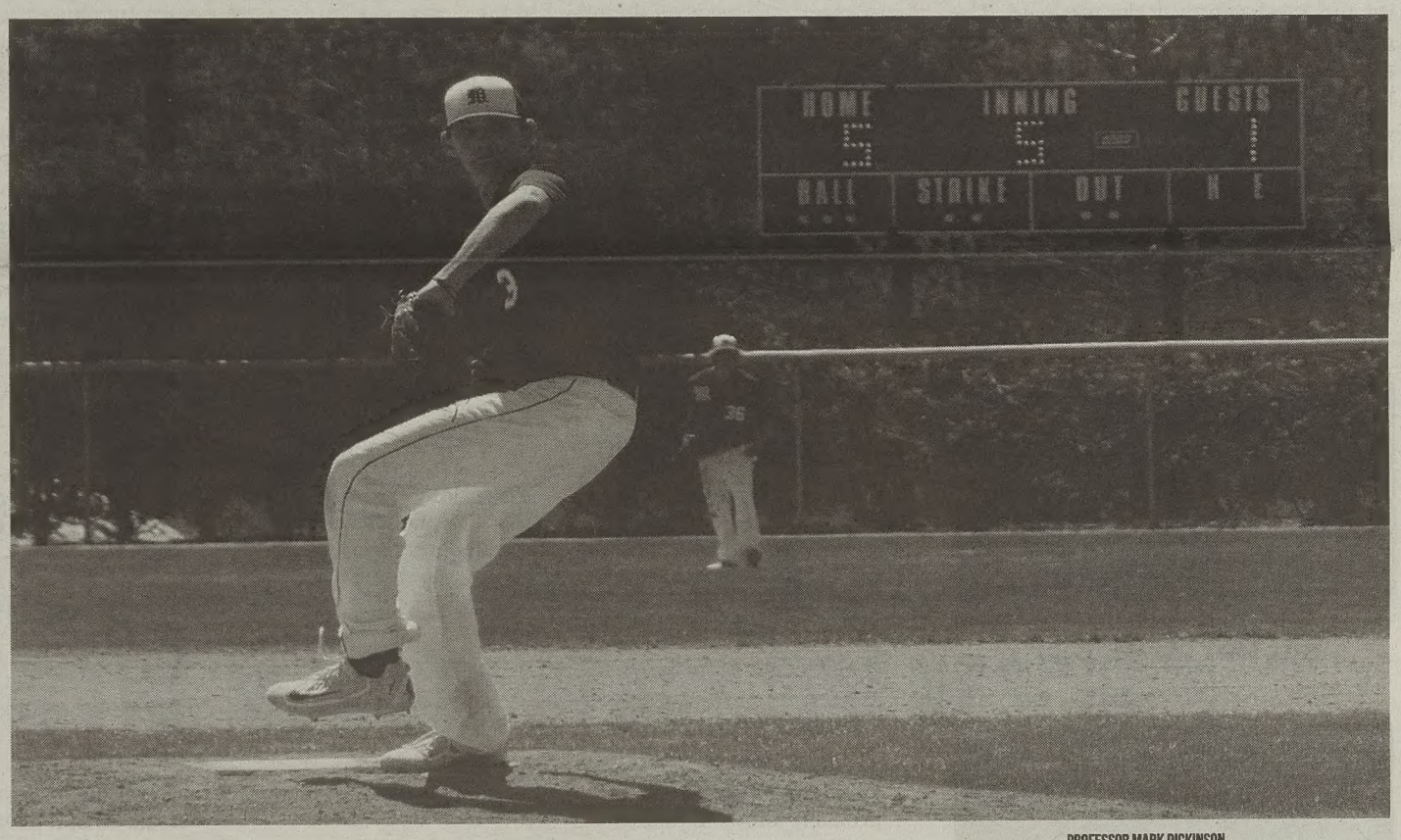
In the top of the eighth, Erickson — who had relieved Waters with one out in the top of the sixth — recorded an out before allowing the Cardinals to load the bases. Himstead came in again in relief, but unfortunately, the visitors scored three runs (two on an error). The Panthers, however, worked out of the jam when Wesleyan's Matt Jeye smoked a ball back to Himstead who knocked it down and quickly recovered to throw the runner out at first. Lock then threw the ball to Carroll because the Wesleyan runner on second base, caught off guard, had tried to advance even though there was still a runner on third base. Carroll chased him toward third, coaxing the lead runner to head for home, where Carroll flipped the ball to Phil Bernstein '19 to get the inning-ending out and secure the 5-4 Middlebury lead.

In the bottom of the eighth, the Panthers tacked on two insurance runs when Goolsby reached first on an error and was replaced by pinch runner John Tipps '19. Tipps reached second on a passed ball and went to third on a sacrifice bunt by Carroll. With Wesleyan's infielders playing on the grass, Rizzo chipped a single into right for a 6-4 lead. Rizzo, once again, stole second and scored on a base hit from Lock. Himstead, in the bottom of the ninth, retired the remaining Cardinals in order for his conference-leading fifth save.

Hennings finished with four hits and three RBI's, both Guild and Carroll went 2-3 while captain Lock had two hits with two RBI's.

"I am so proud of the way our team competed this weekend, " Head Coach Mike Leonard reflected. "This team has the best chemistry of any team I have ever coached and that has been the key to our success. Every player on our team has played a role in helping us reach the NESCAC playoffs."

The Panthers head to Waterville, Maine on May 12 to face the top East Conference teams.



PROFESSOR MARK DICKINSON

Colin Waters '19 earned the win for the Panthers allowing one unearned on three hits and four strikeouts.

Women's Lacrosse Falling in Standings

By Jake Turtel
Staff Writer

In a week where the weather once again played tricks on much of the Northeast, the Panther women's lacrosse team split their two games, winning a weekday road matchup against Union before dropping a NESCAC contest to visiting Colby.

On Tuesday, Middlebury got on the board early as Mary O'Connell '17 and Hollis Perticone '18 scored within the first three minutes of play. After a Union goal, the Panthers extended their lead to 5-1 with Jenna McNicholas '19 netting two and Bea Eppler '17 one. The hosts tallied three of the next four goals to bring them within two, but two free position scores by Emma McDonagh '19 and MG Gately '20 and an unassisted goal by Perticone gave the visiting Panthers a five goal lead, although the Dutch Women were able to cut it to four before the half ended.

Within eight minutes of the start of the second half, Middlebury rattled off four consecutive goals by four different players: Eppler, Perticone (assisted by McDonagh), Sara DiCenso '19 and McDonagh (assisted by Casey O'Neill '19). In an attempt to come back, Union scored twice quickly but the Panthers answered back with two more goals by McDonagh and O'Connell. As soon as Union made another push to get back in the game with two goals, the Panthers answered with three of their own: Perticone netted two and DiCenso put the third home.

Middlebury ended the game with a comfortable lead over the Dutchwomen, winning by the margin of 18-10. Perticone stole the show with six goals in the win, while McDonagh contributed four points of her own (three goals, one assist) to bolster the Panthers. Eppler, DiCenso, O'Connell and McNicholas all scored twice.

This game, however, was not of huge importance. The main attraction was the matchup with tenth-ranked Colby on Saturday. While the Panthers were looking to pick up steam heading into the postseason, the underdog Mules wanted to play spoiler to the reigning champion's hopes. In Waterville, Maine, the stage was set for a dogfight.

McDonagh got the Panthers on the board first, taking matters into her own hands and scoring an unassisted goal. Colby, however, returned fire with a goal of their own. McDonagh, not to be outdone, converted a free position opportunity into another tally. Perticone, eager to leave her mark on the stat sheet, scored her own free position goal. The home team scored again but Perticone was determined not to let the Mules gain momentum: she scored once again, putting her in contention again with McDonagh for leading scorer. Colby answered her efforts by scoring three of the next four goals. Going into the break, the NESCAC matchup was tied at five.

After an Eppler goal (assisted by Perticone), the Mules took control of the game. Displaying their impressive defense, Colby prevented Middlebury from scoring for the last 28:57 of the game. In that span, the hosts scored four times. The Panthers were not without their opportunities, though; Eppler and Perticone had multiple attempts in the period and O'Connell hit the crossbar on one of her shots. In the end, Colby came out on top, 9-6.

The Panthers' six goals for the game were divided evenly between Eppler, Perticone and McDonagh, while Jessie Yorke '17 scooped up three ground balls. Colby outshot Middlebury, 9-5, while Middlebury controlled more draws (11-6).

Middlebury had a chance to bounce back yesterday, Wednesday, April 26, as they hosted Williams Ephs. Check the athletics website for yesterday's results or for the latest on the Panthers' postseason outlook.

BY THE NUMB3RS

7	*Game win streak for Midd Baseball*
17	*Feet that Jane Freda '17 long jumped — behind only four D1 athletes*
200	*Career Strikeouts by Allison Quigley '18*
24	*Matches won by Women's Tennis*

MEN'S LACROSSE LOOKS AHEAD AFTER COMEBACK FALLS SHORT

By Colby Morris
Senior Writer

This past weekend, the Middlebury men's lacrosse team played host to visiting Colby College. In a crucial NESCAC game for the Panthers, the Mules bested the home squad to a final score of 13-10.

Colby started the game off with an early lead, going up 2-0 within the first two minutes. Henry Riehl '18 scored to push the score to 2-1 and was assisted by A.J. Kucinski '20 in man-up offense to bring Midd within one just three minutes into the game. The two teams then traded off goals as Kucinski scored to make the score 3-2. After a five minute scoreless drought nearing the end of the first quarter, Colby tallied two late goals to bring their lead to 5-2.

In the second quarter, Colby continued its hot shooting with two straight goals, holding a 7-2 lead with 7:11 left in the half. Matt O'Neal '19 put the Panthers back on the scoreboard, followed eight seconds later by another clean shot by John Jackson '18, bringing the score to 7-4. Colby closed out the half with another goal of their own, putting the score at 8-4 in favor of the Mules.

Colby came out firing again in the third quarter, scoring three in the frame while Midd managed just one goal: Riehl, assisted by Wes Quinzani '18, put his second shot of the day in the back of the net. Middlebury, with their postseason hopes hanging in the balance, came out firing in the fourth quarter. Riehl scored two more consecutive goals, followed by two more from teammates Frankie Cosolito '20 and Danny Jacobs '20. Jacobs added one more goal at the end of the game, but two goals by Colby put the score out of reach, ending the contest at 13-10.

In the game, Riehl led the way for the Panthers with four goals, while Kucinski had a team high two assists. Chase Midgley '19 played most of the game in goal, totaling 45 minutes in the net, while captain Will Ernst '17 finished the game off in the final 15 minutes. Jackson and Jake Madnick '20 won 17/27 total faceoffs on the day and Jackson also added a team high seven ground ball recoveries to lead the Middlebury team.

Riehl now sits at fourth place among the NESCAC scoring leaders at 43 and Kucinski is also in fourth place in assists with 30 in his first campaign for Midd. With just one game left to play, Midd sits in eighth place in the conference and needs either a win against Williams or for Colby to have lost last night to Bates on Wednesday. If either result happens, the Panthers will make the NESCAC tournament beginning on Saturday, April 29 and will likely play either Amherst, Wesleyan or Bates, depending on the results of this week's contests.

Chris Bradbury '19 said, "Coming off a tough loss and going into a must-win game against a historically and currently competitive team in Williams ... we are looking to build on what we did at the end of the game against Colby by addressing certain areas of weakness during this week of practice ... and to come out with a competitive mentality that will drive us into making a run at the NESCAC championship."

Tennis Continues on at Breakneck Pace

By Claire Messersmith
Staff Writer

The Middlebury men's and women's tennis teams played a match-packed weekend — the women's team playing a triple header on Friday, April 21, Saturday, April 22 and Sunday, April 23, and the men's team playing two matches both days of the weekend. While the women's team solely played MIT on Friday, both teams faced fellow NESCAC rivals Trinity and Wesleyan over the weekend. The men's team, while breezing past Trinity on Saturday, fell to eighth ranked Wesleyan on Sunday.The third-ranked women's team kicked off its weekend of home matches with a 9-0 sweep of no. 22 MIT. Wet weather forced the match inside, but the hosts notched their sixth-straight win regardless. With the weather cooperating on Saturday, the women's team posted its seventh-straight win with a 9-0 victory over Trinity. The Panthers cruised in straight sets during all six singles wins after putting up all three points during doubles play.

To seal the deal, a strong singles game lifted Middlebury past no. 6 Wesleyan outside on Sunday afternoon. The Panthers were down 2-1 after doubles, but the Panthers rallied back, claiming five of six points in singles.

"It's been an incredible season so far and we are extremely excited heading into the postseason," said Molly Paradies '19. "As the season progresses, we just keep reminding ourselves to stay in the moment and approach our matches one at a time."

The team reeled three-straight victories to close out the match. Paradies clinched the match at no. 5 with a 7-5, 6-0 win.

"Clinching the match against Wesleyan was an amazing feeling, but my win was only one of the 6 points that earned us the victory," said Paradies. "It is always a team effort and everyone contributed to that win on Sunday."

On the men's side, the team saw mixed results. The top-ranked team breezed past Trinity on Saturday, recording a 9-0 home victory for an eighth-consecutive win, but fell to no. 8 Wesleyan on Sunday.

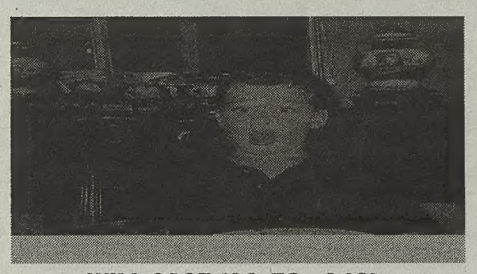
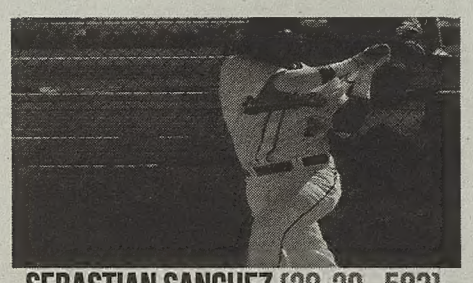
The visitors were on top after doubles play, winning two of the three matches, but the Panthers fought back when William de Quant '18 won 6-4, 6-3 at the no. 2 spot.

Lubo Cuba '19 and de Quant won a tight 9-7 victory at the top spot in doubles, and Cuba also fought back from a set down for a win at no. 1 in singles.

The match was tied 4-4 after the Panthers took away two points with Cuba's victory and a win from Kyle Schlanger '18, but went down 5-4 after a hard-fought loss at no. 6.

The Middlebury tennis teams are back in action next weekend away at Amherst, on Saturday, April 29.

EDITORS' PICKS

	Golf: Will men's golf capture their fourth-straight NESCAC title this weekend?	**Track & Field: Do both teams finish in the top two this weekend at NESCACs?**	**Softball: Can they win one game in their three-game set with Williams this weekend?**	**NBA Playoffs: Tomorrow night, Clippers vs. Jazz?**
 WILL CASE (90-56, .616)	NO Didn't get my quotes. And we needed those this week for layout purposes. Also it's on the road and this will be the tightest it's been for the last couple of years. Hope I'm wrong.	NO It'll be close. They have a good shot. They both have gotten a lot better over the course of this season.	NO Man, I'm being a real Squidward with these picks this week.	JAZZ Some smooth Jazz brought to you by the return of Rudy Gobert.
 SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ (28-20, .583)	NO. Will is the golf expert so he probably knows his stats.	NO. PROVE ME WRONG!	YES. As the chief writer of softball, it would be BAD MOJO if I betted against them...	JAZZ. Clippers always choke in the playoffs. Plus, Blake Griffin is out...sucks to suck.
ROBERT ERICKSON (21-17, .553)	YES Yessir.	NOPE Hate to be a downer, but with Tufts sitting comfortably atop the men's ranks and Williams atop the women's, there are just too many variables.	YES Bunch of Debbie Downers around here. Williams has won a lot of close games. Panthers can take at least one.	JAZZ Gordon Hayward is the man.
EMILY BUSTARD (100-103, .493)	NO It seems like beating both Trinity and Williams will be pretty difficult, based on Midd's third place finish last week.	YES That would be ideal.	NO It'll be hard to crack Williams' 7-1 record.	JAZZ Not really sure though.

Moment of Truth for Softball This Weekend

By Sebastian Sanchez
Sports Editor

The Middlebury team headed to Middletown, Conn., for their third West NESCAC series against the Wesleyan Cardinals this past weekend. After taking the previous series from Hamilton, the Panthers were riding into Middletown with a four-game win streak and a chance to keep it going.

On Friday, April 21, Allison Quigley '18 started on the bump for Middlebury. Quigley, who would throw her 10th complete game of the season, is one of Middlebury's most reliable pitchers, sitting at an 8-5 record.

The Panthers took the lead in the top of the first when Olivia Bravo '20 tripled to the gap in right-center. Bravo, who is hitting an impressive .379 with 15 RBI's, scored on a single from fellow first-year Melanie Mandell '20. Although Wesleyan would score in the bottom of the inning to tie the game at 1-1, it would be their only run of the game.

Quigley got into a jam in the bottom of the third when the bases were loaded with one out. But she quickly worked herself out of trouble with a fielder's choice and a groundout to end the inning, setting the stage for the Panthers to take the lead in the fourth.

Carrying that momentum, Middlebury was able to score two runs. Hye Jin-Kim '17 plated Quigley and Sarah Freyre '17 after a single to right field that extended their lead to 3-1

In the top of the sixth, the guests added onto their lead when Quigley doubled to center and scored on a Freyre double to right. Leading 4-1, both Freyre and Mandell scored on an error to give the visitors a 6-1 advantage. Kim reached first following these two runs and later scored on a groundout by Siobhan O'Sullivan '17. Quigley would hold the Cardinals scoreless in the seventh for her ninth win of the season.

Freye, a team captain, earned NESCAC Player of the Week hitting .522, recording her 100th career hit in a 5-1-1 week for the Panthers. She belted six doubles to go along with a home run, eight RBI's and nine runs scored.

Due to poor weather conditions, Saturday's double-header was moved to Sunday, April 23, and Wesleyan proved harder to put away this time around. In the first inning, the Cardinals got on the board with an RBI double to left field and almost scored again, but Ali Della Volpe '18 had other plans. Wesleyan's Julie McDonald hit a fly ball to left field with the bases loaded; Della Volpe, however, caught the ball for the second out and fired a laser to Liza Tarr '19 gunning down the runner trying to tag up for the third out of the inning.

"In my head this was just another routine play," Della Volpe said. "I knew ahead of time that if the ball came my way, it was going home. I stayed calm and was prepared to do what I had to do to get the out."

The hosts tacked on two runs in the bottom of the third inning, however, to give them a 3-0 advantage. Middlebury's offense, though slow to get started, finally picked up at the top of the fifth.

Mandell scored on a double by Marybeth Stone '20 cutting the lead to 3-1. Freye joined Stone on base and both scored on a double from Gardner tying the game 3-3. The score remained that way until the top of the eighth inning when O'Sullivan hit a solo homerun to deep center field, giving the Panthers a 4-3 edge.

The hosts answered back in the bottom of the inning, plating one run and tying the game. The Cardinals almost won in the eighth, but O'Sullivan threw out Estella Zeng at the plate trying to score and sent the game into the ninth. Middlebury was unable to score in the ninth, however, and with two outs in the bottom of the stanza, Wesleyan's Julie McDonald singled to right to end the game.

"As a team, we knew that we had played strong defense and exploded on offensive," Kim reflected. "But honestly, we were just missing some timely hits."

Irene Margiotta '19 tossed the first five innings, followed by Quigley who recorded the loss. Quigley, however, struck out a pair making her the fifth pitcher in softball history to record 200 career strikeouts — she sits at 201.

"This season is different from others because we have a small team and only two pitchers," Gardner said. "We rely on our pitchers every game and [Quigley] is always there ready to pitch when we need her — so is [Margiotta]. Both of them are extremely valuable to our team and are great team players, as they are always willing to step on the mound when we need them."

In the nightcap, Middlebury jumped on Wesleyan early, scoring twice in the first inning. Freye reached first and later scored on O'Sullivan's double in the gap; Gardner followed right behind with a double of her own giving the Panthers a 2-0 lead. At the top of the third, Freye drove in two runs with a double to center and then scored on a base hit by O'Sullivan. With a 5-0 advantage, Middlebury only gave up one run in the fourth. Margiotta pitched another complete game to earn the 5-1 win for Middlebury giving up only one run on three hits.

The Panthers return home for their final NESCAC series against Williams College on April 28 and 29.

"The mentality really is one game at a time," Kim said. "But it'd be really run to sweep Williams. Moving forward? 'Work hard and get better everyday,' in the words of our captain."

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING TEAM
SEB'S SUGGESTIONS

1 BASEBALL:
The boys are heading to Waterville, Maine for NESCAC playoffs. #watchout

2 WOMEN'S TENNIS:
Ranked #3 in the country and # 1 in the NESCAC. We see you ladies.

3 MEN'S TENNIS:
Holding on to their #1 spot in the country is swag — now go beat Amherst.

4 SOFTBALL:
A sweep of Williams gives them hope of a potential playoff spot.

5 GOLF:
Men's and Women's both finished 3rd at Williams for a successful season.

6 WOMEN'S LAX:
Tough loss against Colby only leaves room to beat whomever they play in the playoffs.

7 MEN'S LAX:
The squad could not complete the rally against the Mules.

8 SPRING HAS SPRUNG:
Bring out the grills, Kan Jam and Spike Ball, baby.

Track & Field Run on to NESCAC's

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

finished fourth in the 5,000-meter event (15:22.70). The Panthers had a pair of strong performances in the 1,500-meter race, with Nathan Hill '20 winding up fourth (3:59.13) and Connor Evans '19 finishing sixth (4:01.91). Lastly, Theodore Henderson '20 snagged sixth place in the 3,000-meter steeplechase (9:59.28).

In the shorter events, the Middlebury men had a pair of sixth-place finishes: Jackson Bock '18 in the 200-meter dash (21.47) and Paul Malloy '18 in the 400-meter hurdles (58.66). In the 110-meter hurdle preliminaries, Mike Pallozzi '18 posted the best DIII time of the day and third-best time overall (15.60). Lastly, Tyler Chaisson '17 finished sixth in the shot put (44'10.25") and Taylor Moore '18 finished sixth in the javelin (151').

This Saturday, Middlebury will head back to Bowdoin for the NESCAC Outdoor Track and Field Championships. Amid their preparations, Freda explained what she thought would be the keys for the Panthers at their first postseason meet. "As cliché as it sounds," she said, "I think grit and hard work are going to be the keys to our success. Looking at the seeds for this meet, there are so many events that are really really close. Giving that little extra effort to run a little faster, throw or jump just a little further could make a huge difference in the end. We have so much talent and we've been training so hard all year—this is the time to get gritty and leave it all out on the track, runway or field!"

WOMEN'S GOLF ENDS SEASON AT WILLIAMS AS THE MEN GET READY FOR NESCAC'S

By Will Case
Sports Editor

Last weekend, April 22-23, the golf teams headed straight south for a two-hour car ride down US Route 7 to the familiar confines of the Taconic Golf Club in Williamstown, Mass., for the Williams Spring Invitational. Both teams finished third, with the women's squad wrapping up the 2016-17 campaign with a two-day total of 641 and the men's squad getting one last match under their belts before NESCACs, shooting a collective 593.

On the women's side, the always reliable Katharine Fortin '18 was the Panthers' low scorer. Fortin shot 154 for the weekend and tied for fifth in individual play. She shot below 80 in both of her rounds with a 76 on Saturday and a 78 on Sunday.

First-years Blake Yaccino '20 and Chloe Levins '20 ended their rookie seasons on high notes, as Yaccino finished just outside of the individual top 10 shooting a 161 for the weekend. She was one-under 80 on Sunday. Levins had a solid outing on Saturday as she went into the clubhouse with a 78, but fell off of her pace on Sunday as she shot an 85 to tally a 163 for the weekend.

Helen Daley '19 shot a 168 for the weekend and Hope Matthews '18 shaved four strokes off of her Saturday score with a strong second round on Sunday, bringing her two-day total to 170 to round things out for the Panthers.

Theo Yoch '17, the team's lone senior, competed in her last collegiate match and put together one of the best weekends of her time in the program, as she walked off of the course Sunday with a weekend total of 162 on her scorecard.

Meanwhile, the men's squad got one last chance to play in a competitive setting before they head back down US Route 7 to play at Taconic again this weekend, April 29-30, in search of their fourth-straight NESCAC Championship crown. If they accomplish the feat, it would mark the eighth time in 11 years that the NESCAC Championship trophy will come back to Middlebury.

The top three team finishes on the men's side of the tournament were Williams, Trinity and Middlebury, with the Panthers 15 strokes off the pace set by the Ephs. Trinity finished with a weekend total of 589, four strokes better than the Panthers. Nonetheless, the team is confident that it can make up those deficits this weekend.

"Winning NESCACs my four years at Middlebury would mean the world," Rodrigo Andrade '17 said with an eye toward the playoffs, "especially since I was a walk-on. Middlebury has never won four in a row, and I feel that if we play well, we can win."

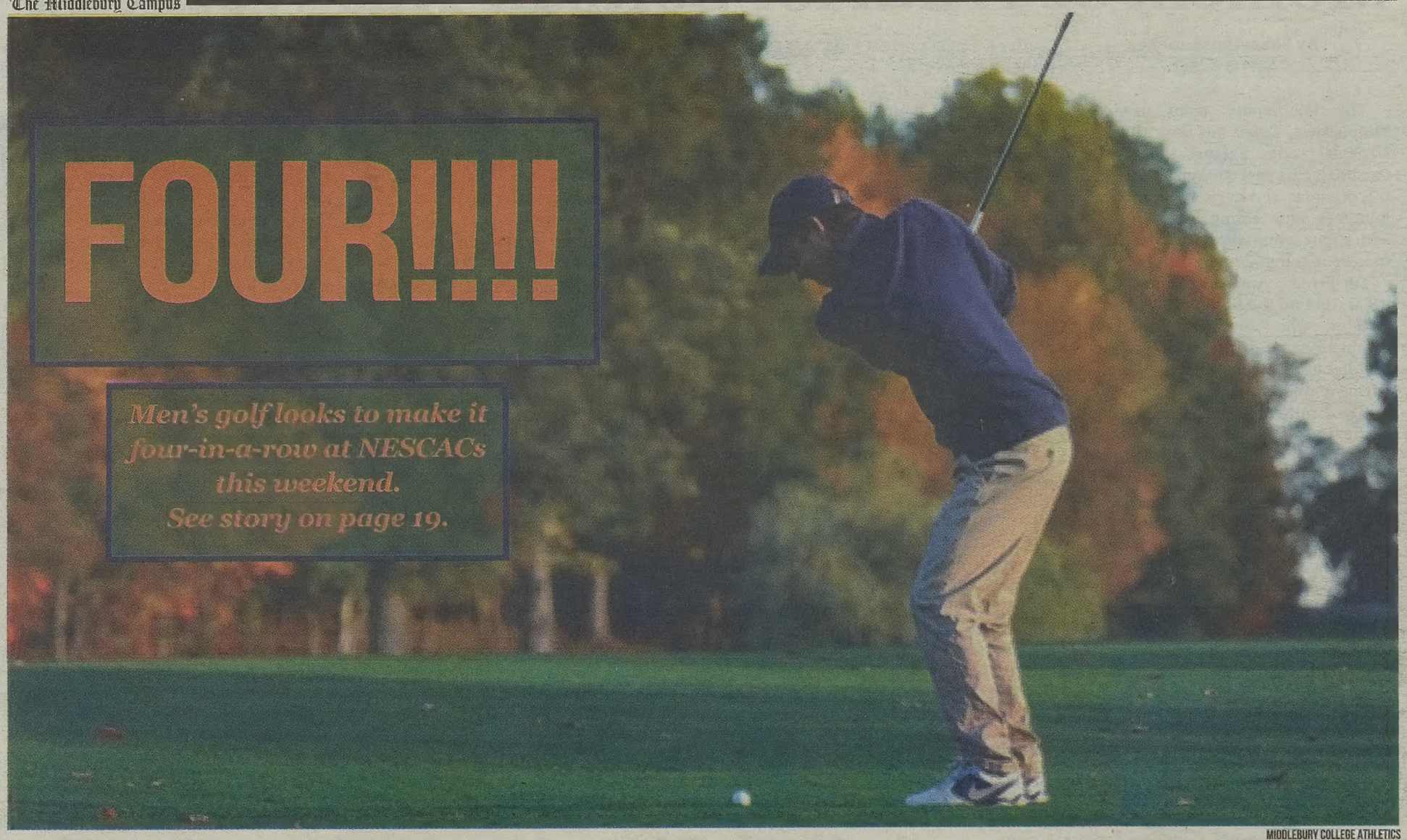
Phil Morin '19 was more direct in his assessment of the situation. "We've got a chance to make history. Let's do it."

Reid Buzby '19 led the way for the Panthers this past weekend, as he was one-under par with a 141 for the weekend to tie for third on the individual board. Next in line for the Panthers was Joe Ko '18 who shot a 150 for the weekend to tie for eighth.

After shooting a 73 on Saturday, Andrade entered play Sunday sitting just outside of the top five but dropped out of the top 10 as he shot an uncharacteristic 79, his worst round of the season.

Jeffrey Giguere '20 finished the weekend with a 151 for the Panthers, while David McDaniel '19 and Morin rounded things out with respective weekend totals of 154 and 159.

This weekend, things get teed off on Saturday midday at Taconic and should wind down by mid-afternoon on Sunday. For those who will be following the team's progress over the weekend, Buzby enters NESCACs with the hot hand and Andrade is always sure to have a strong showing at the big tournaments. Keep an eye on Giguere as well, as Panther first-years have a knack for recording strong weekends at the conference championships.



FOUR!!!!

Men's golf looks to make it four-in-a-row at NESCACs this weekend.
See story on page 19.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE ATHLETICS

BASEBALL BRINGS OUT THE BROOMS TO QUALIFY FOR PLAYOFFS

By Jordan Howell
Staff Writer

After taking a midday matchup from St. Michaels and sweeping Wesleyan this past weekend, the Middlebury baseball team has stretched its win streak to seven, dating back to their sweep of Hamilton on April 14 and 15. What's more, this weekend's wins over the Cardinals secured the Panthers their first playoff berth to the NESCAC tournament since 2011.

On Thursday, April 20, Middlebury beat St. Michaels 8-1 thanks to a combined effort by Dylan Takamori '17, Tucker Meredith '17, Grant Elgateran '20, John Tipps '19 and Robert Erickson '18. The staff kept the Purple Knights to five hits and one run as the Panthers scored eight runs on eight hits, including a pair of home runs by Sam Graf '19.

Looking to carry over their momentum from the Hamilton series the weekend prior, Middlebury hosted Wesleyan for their final NESCAC series of the regular season on April 22-23. On Saturday, Spencer Shores '20 started on the mound for the Panthers after an impressive showing against Hamilton, in which he struck out 12 over eight innings,

The Cardinals, however, had other plans as they scored two runs in the top of third thanks to a walk, a double and a throwing error. But the Panthers answered with an offensive onslaught starting in the fourth when Ryan Rizzo '17 singled through the left side. With a left-hand pitcher on the mound, Rizzo tried to steal second but got caught in a rundown. Wesleyan's first baseman, however, sailed the ball into left field allowing Rizzo to hit second base in full stride and turn towards third; when Wesleyan's left fielder overthrew the third baseman into Middlebury's dugout, Rizzo safely trotted across home plate.

Though Wesleyan scored in the top of the fifth inning to extend their lead to 3-1, Middlebury answered again in the bottom after the Cardinals' pitchers loaded the bases and Jason Lock '17 walked to draw the first RBI of the inning, closing Wesleyan's lead. Graf followed behind, working the count to 2-2 before belting a double into the left-center gap. All three runs scored to give Middlebury the 5-3 advantage, but they weren't done. Justin Han '20 hit a two run home run, the second of the season, to extend their lead to 7-3.

> ***"This team has the best chemistry of any team I have ever coached and that has been the key to our success. Every player on our team has played a role in helping us reach the NESCAC playoffs."***
>
> **MIKE LEONARD**
> HEAD COACH

"I was really happy to keep the momentum going after Graf hit that bases clearing double," Han said. "It gave our pitcher and the team confidence to close the game out in the last few innings."

Jake Stalcup '17 came in to toss the final two innings of the game, allowing one hit and no runs. Shores recorded the win as the Panthers moved one game closer to a playoff spot, extending their win streak to five games.

Colby Morris '19 started the nine-inning nightcap — a much closer contest than the first game. Middlebury scored their only three runs of the game in the bottom of the fourth. Rizzo reached on an infield single and stole second; Lock followed by drawing a walk to give the Panthers a first and second advantage. Han singled into left field scoring Rizzo, and Alan Guild '20 followed with a clutch double — blasting a screaming line drive that one-hopped the 390 center field wall, scoring Lock and Han.

Wesleyan scored once in the fifth and once in the sixth, cutting the Panther advantage by one. In the top of the seventh, however, Morris mowed down the Cardinals in order, paving the way for Conor Himstead '19 to record the final six outs in the eighth and ninth. Himstead recorded his fourth save of the season, setting a new program record in the process. Morris finished the day with seven innings, allowing two runs on three hits, seven strikeouts and a pair of walks.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

TRACK AND FIELD RUN OVER COMPETITION

By Robert Erickson
Sports Editor

The Middlebury track and field team traveled down to the University of Albany this past weekend to compete at the 33rd Albany Spring Classic, a non-scoring meet featuring over 700 athletes from all three NCAA divisions as well as club teams. Both the women's and men's teams turned in a bevy of strong performances, making their presence known on the track as well as in field events.

After the competition had finished, senior jumper Jane Freda '17 offered her thoughts on the last meet of the Panthers' regular season. "Albany is always an interesting meet," she said. "It's always after the last big week of practices before we start tapering for post-season, so performances definitely vary more than other meets. There's always some crazy wind at Albany, and the tailwind was great for short sprinters and jumpers, but pretty tough for long sprinters/distance runners. But given the weather conditions and high volume training, I felt like as a whole we did pretty well."

And according to the timesheet, the Panthers certainly did well by themselves. For the women, the 4x100-meter relay team of Ellie Greenberg '20, Natalie Cheung '18, Maddie Pronovost '17 and Elizabeth Walkes '20 continued their remarkable string of performances, winning the event with a time of 49.17 seconds. The other Panther victory was secured by Julia Lothrop '19 in the javelin toss (122'6"), who barely edged out teammate Devon Player '18 (122'2").

Other strong track efforts by the women included a second-place finish in the 5,000-meter race by Talia Ruxin '20 (17:45.28) and two fifth-place finishes by Rose Kelly '19 in the 1,500-meter race (4:52.51) and Claire Gomba '19 in the 3,000-meter steeplechase (12:05.34).

On the field side, Freda leapt to fifth place in both the long jump (17') and the triple jump (35'7.75"), finishing behind four Division I athletes in each event.

"I was surprised I jumped as well as I did," Freda said later. "I took the last meet off to recover from a quad injury so it was a great confidence boost going into NESCACs. I jumped really close to my PR's so hopefully I can continue these good vibes into the next couple weeks!"

But the men's team was not without its own share of strong showings, either. For the distance runners, Henry Fleming '20 crossed the line third in the 3,000-meter race (9:01.41) and Harrison Knowlton '19

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

INSIDE SPORTS

TENNIS TEAMS HOLD THEIR TOP-RANKINGS IN THE NATION
PAGE 18

SOFTBALL TO PUT IT ON THE LINE THIS WEEKEND VS. EPHS
PAGE 19